

THE
Whole Duty
Truth — OF *Jesus Christ*
MAN
Epitomiz'd
FOR THE
Benefit of the POOR
With Select Prayers suited
to every Partition.

By Edmond Stacy, a Minister of the
Church of England.

Fear God, and keep his Commandments; for this is the Whole Duty of Man, Eccles. 12. 13.

D U B L I N:

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W.M. Dyer
W.M. Dyer
W.M. Dyer
W.M. Dyer
W.M. Dyer



To the Right Honourable
Sir Richard Levit, Lord
Mayor Elect;
And the Honourable Charles
Duncomb, and Jeffery
Jefferies Esquires, She-
riffs of the City of
London, &c.

If there be any thing that can
excuse my Presumption in
putting Three such great
Names to this little Book, it must
be the Sincerity of my Intention for
the Interest of Religion.

For the Doctrines it contains, I
need say no more, than that they
are faithfully Collected from that
incomparable Author the Whole
Duty of Man, a Book (to speak in
Dr. Hammond's Words) that has

The Epistle Dedicatory.

all the Advantages, which (with Gods Blessing) can render it fit for the Salvation of Mankind.

My design in drawing it into this little Volume, I have already mentioned in the Title, viz. *For the Benefit of the Poor*, and who so fit to recommend it to them, as those very Persons to whom the Government of this great City is entrusted; your Names, your Characters, and your Authority together, must needs stamp a Repute upon it; and render it acceptable even to this sinful Age.

I am sensible, there's neither of you can be any Friend to the common Vanity of Complement; and therefore to bespeak your Acceptance of these few Sheets; I shall Address my Self to your gracious God, that under the shadow of your Protection, he would bless this Epitomy to the Conversation of many Souls.

Alas! we live in a World wherein Vertue has almost lost her Prerogative, Religion has few true Friends

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Friends and will have fewer still, till Men can be persuaded to consider the Necessity and Advantage of it ; and how far this little Book may contribute towards that End, is utterly out of my Power to determine.

I know I have put it into good Hands, and so I humbly leave it with you, with this Assurance, that whatever you do in the behalf of Piety and Charity, will be doubly placiſg your Account in the Records of Eternity, and entitle you to Rewards as large as your Merits, and as lasting as your Souls.

And now there remains no more, but to beseech you to accept this little Book, and Pardon the unworthy Author, who amongst many others that Congratulate your Accession to your respective Stations, is one of the first that has thus ventur'd to do it in Publick.

Your high Qualifications have drawn after you many Hearts, and many ardent Wishes, and Mine in

The Epistle Dedicatory.

a more Particular manner than the rest, who am with the utmost Distance and Regard, may it please your Honours,

Your most obedient Servant,

E. Stacy.

THE

THE
PREFACE.

OUR Inimitable Author has propos'd the Care of our Souls as the grand Preparatory to the Whole Duty of Man, and indeed I cannot better recommend the Epitomy of his Book, than by telling you in his Words, that the carelessness of our Souls is the Root of all the Sin we commit; so that unless we would be perswaded to consider the Condition of our Souls, all Lectures of Religion must be utterly lost upon us.

The Design of this little Book will admit of but a very short Preface, and therefore I shall only tell the Reader, that his Soul being infinitely the most valuable of any thing that he has beside, has the greatest Title to his Care both in Point of Reason and Justice.

This is what we find confirm'd in the Accounts of all Wise Men, who still value every thing more or less, as it

most

The Preface.

most imports to their Interest or Happiness. Our Soul therefore being our chiefest Good, it concerns us very nearly to consult their Preservation, and how that's to be done, is the Design of the following Sheets.

I hope it will not be expected, I should say any thing in Analysis for this undertaking. If the thing be done as it ought to be, it must needs be, of general good; the Reader indeed would do well to observe, that though my Brevery, &c. has generally compell'd me to use my own Words, yet the Meaning and Method of the Author are all along carefully preserv'd.

For the Whole Duty of Man itself, 'tis indeed a most compleat System of Religion, and therefore highly fit to be often read over at large by all, whose Time and Circumstances will allow it; This Epitomy is only design'd to supply those Deficiencies, and for the Assistance of bad Memories; in brief, 'tis intended chiefly for the Benefit of the Poor, and to them I refer it, &c.

THE

THE
Whole Duty
OF
M A N
Epitomiz'd, &c.

PARTITION I.

the Duty of Man by the Light of Nature, and Scripture: His Duty to God, Himself, and his Neighbour. His Duty to God; of Faith, the Promises, of Hope, of Love, of Fear, of Trust.

THE Incarnation of our Blessed Lord, is without doubt a sufficient Warrant for the Salvation of our Souls, if we perform the Commandments.

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Conditions annexed to it; which is in general to use our honest endeavours to obey the whole Will of God, according as we have it convey'd to us, by the Light of Nature, and the Light of the Holy Scriptures.

Of the Light of Nature. The Light of Nature in the first place is a Light which God has stampt upon our very Souls, by the Guidance of which, without the help of Scripture mere natural Conscience would direct us in the performance of several Duties. Such as are to ~~know~~ Worship a God, to be Just one to another, and to Honour our Parents, and the like.

Of the Light of Scripture. The Light of Scripture is a far more perfect Divine Light, whereof before us both his Commands, and his Precepts, to be the general Rule and Grounds of our Duty.

The general Rules of the Duties of every Christian are brief and

of Man Epitomiz'd. 3

comprehended under
these three Heads ; our Duty to God, our Selves, and our Neighbours, and those three I intend for the Subject of the following Discourse.

The three great Branches of Mans' Duty.

The Foundation of our Duty to God, is grounded chiefly upon our acknowledging him to be God, and then admitting of no other.

Acknowledging him to be God.

And first by acknowledging him to be a God, we are to believe him to be an Infinite Glorious Being, without either beginning or end, both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, God here blessed for ever.

To believe him in his Attributes.

We are likewise to believe him in his Attributes ; to be a God of Mercy, Justice, and Power, that he sees and knows all things, and disposes every-

4 The Whole Duty

ry Event, according to his Will, and that he can never cease to be other than perfectly Good, Merciful and Just.

The believing him to be our God signifies yet more, it means by Faith we should believe the Holy Scriptures to be his Word, and that all that he speaks to us by them, are most true; that all that

*Of Faith, of
God's Affir-
mations,
Commands,
Threatnings
and Promises*

he affirms is Indubitable, that his Commands are Just, and Equal, his Threatnings and Punishments certain and unavoidable, and that all his Promises are In

Tea and Amen, and will most certainly be made good to all that faithfully depend upon him.

This is the summ of our Faith or Belief of those things God has been pleased to reveal to us in the Holy Scriptures.

The next Duty to God is Hope which is a comfortable Expectation of his Promises, and should be be

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ways preserv'd from
the dangerous ex-
tream of Presumpti-
on or Despair ; We
should neither de-
pend too much, nor too little upon
his Mercies, but rely upon his Ju-
stice , and Integrity for our Re-
wards and Punishments.

*Of Hope,
Presumption
and Despair.*

A Third Duty we
owe to God is Love,
a Duty which with-
out doubt he has the
greatest right to, both
upon the account of
his Goodness and
the Compassion to us, his
Innate Excellence, and
his particular Kindness to all Man-
kind.

*Of Love and
the Motives,
i. e. Gods
Goodness,
Excellence,
and his kind-
ness to Men.*

God is most Good, Just and Ex-
cellent, he is perfectly Holy, Kind,
and Compassionate, and cannot be
in the charg'd with any Impurity, or the
least mixture of any thing that is
evil ; his Goodness and Kindness
are Immence and Infinite, and have
been so abundantly demonstrated

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both to our Bodies and Souls, that we cannot refuse him our Love without the greatest Injustice.

The Scripture abound with Holy Invitations, endearing Promises, and affectionate Offers, by which he endeavours, as it were, to woo us into good Lives, and to entreat us to accept of Happiness here and Eternal Happiness hereafter.

The Fruits of Love, a desire to please & enjoy him. The two great Tokens of our True Love to God are,

First, An earnest desire to please him ; and Secondly, To enjoy him. This is the common Indication of true Love in all ordinary Cases ; and above all other things doth best approve us to those we have a real value for.

Of pleasing God.

The reality of our Affections to God are best declar'd, by a steady Conformity to the Divine Will, a readiness to Obey his Commandments, and an awful regard to his Precepts ; these are

of Man Epitomiz'd. 7.

are indeed Arguments of our real Love, and Affection, and the only way we can make use of, either to please him, or to shew the sincerity of our Hearts.

Next to pleasing *Of enjoying* God, a desire to enjoy him is consistent with our Love; if we love God in earnest we shall covet to be always in his Company, conversing with him in Prayers and Meditations hearing his Word and receiving his Sacraments, which is the only means of enjoying God in this World.

Our enjoyment of God in the next is far more permanent and compleat; there we shall be continually with him in eternal fruition of Joy and Happiness, in comparison of which all our advantages in this Life are but empty Baubles and Trifles.

A Fourth Duty to *Fear.*
God is Fear, which arises from the consideration of his Power and Justice; and those in Conjunction, do both enable, and

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oblige him to punish the Wicked; an awful regard and belief of which is the only means that can restrain us from offending him.

God is the chiefest Object of Fear, and therefore we ought not to fear Man more than God. *I will not fear,* says the Psalmist, *what Man can do unto me.* Men have no Power to do us hurt unless by God's Permission, and then their Malice can reach no further neither than our Goods, Names, Liberties, or our Lives; the Destruction of Soul and Body together is Gods Prerogative only.

'Tis God alone that knows all our secret Thoughts and Transactions, all our Sins though committed with never so much Privacy, lie always open before him, and he'll be sure to find us out, and punish us unless we repent, which indeed is the greatest Argument that can be to awaken our Fears and engage our Apprehensions.

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A Fifth Duty to
God is Trust, that is, *Trust.*
a depending and rest-
ing upon him in all our Dangers,
Wants and Extremities, whether
Spiritual or Temporal.

In our Spiritual
Dangers, we are to *Spiritual*
throw our selves up- *Dangers.*
on God's Assistance,
and to implore him to strengthen
us with the Grace of his Holy Spi-
rit, that we may be able to with-
stand, or at least to remove the
Temptation.

In our Temporal *Temporal*
Dangers we are to *Dangers.*
rest and depend up-
on him, to commit our selves to the
shadow of his Wings, under the
Royal Prophets Assurance, Psalm
34. 22, *That the Lord delivereth the*
Souls of the Saints, and all that put
their Trust in him shall not be destitute.

In all our Dangers and Distresses,
with Prayers and Tears we are to
implore his aid, and not attempt to
deliver our selves by any wicked

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We must not seek to deliver our selves by Sin.

Act ; we must never use sinful means, not even the Preservation of our Lives and Liberties can make any the least pre-

tence for the doing an unjust thing ; Christ himself has told us , that if we gain the whole World and loose our own Souls , we are great losers by the Bargain ; if therefore things should ever come to that unhappy Issue , that we must part with our Estates , perhaps our Lives , or else commit Sin , we should then remember that that's the proper season to fight under the Banner of the great Captain of our Salvation , the Crucify'd JESUS .

In our Spiritual Necessities we are to fly to God with Tears in our Eyes and invoke his Assistance , we are to pour out our Souls before him , and then we may depend upon it , that as he has commanded us nothing that he has not given us Power to perform , so

of Man Epitomiz'd. II

so he will suffer us to want nothing that we ask of him with a holy and devout Integrity of mind.

We are likewise to rely upon him in all *Temporal* our Temporal and *wants*.

Bodily Wants; he has oblig'd himself to take care of all his faithful Servants, his Eye is upon them that fear him, and them that hope in his Mercy, to deliver their Souls from Death, and to feed them in the time of Famine.

If we do our Duty honestly and religiouſly in our ſeveral Places and Callings, *The Benefits of trusting in God.* then as the Apostle adviſeth, we may caſt all our Care upon God who careth for us, and he who is ſubject to no ſort of Deceit or Impoveriſhment, that beſt knows our wants, and is beſt able to ſupply 'em, will be ſure in the proper ſeafon, to relieve us againſt all Dangers and Necessities, whether Spiritual or Temporal.

I conclude this with the words of the

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the Apostle, Phil. 4. 6. Be careful
nothing, but in every thing by
Prayer and Supplication, with thanks-
giving, let your request be made
known to God.

PARTITION II.

Of Humility, of Submission to God's
Will, in respect of Obedience, of
Patience in all sorts of sufferings,
and of Honour due to God in sev-
eral ways, in his House, Possessions,
his Day, Word, Sacraments.

Humility.

A Sixth Duty to
God is Humili-
ty, which from an humble sense of
our own Meanness and his Excel-
lency should work in us a twofold
Submission, the first to his Will, the
second to his Wisdom.

A Submission to
Submission to the Will of God con-
God's Will, sists chiefly in our O-
with respect bedience or Patience,
to Obedience. in the first by urging

us to a ready Complaisance to his Commands, by melting down our stubborn haughty Minds, without which we can never come to know, worship, or obey him, with that profound distance and Submission which the greatness of his Majesty, and the importance of his Commands require.

To promote our Obedience, we should often reflect upon that vast distance that is between God and our Selves, that we are but Polluted Dust and Ashes, wretched Creatures but of a few Hours, and that he's without Beginning or End, Immortal and Eternal.

That our best Works and Performances are utterly unworthy of him, or at least unworthy of our own Commendation, the best we can do when we come to compare it with the Perfection and Purity of Almighty God; as the Prophet

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phet expresses it, *Is but as filthy Rags*, and therefore we ought by no means to boast of our own Works, or to attribute any of them to our selves, but to give God the Glory and preheminence in all our Actions.

Submission with respect of Patience.

The Second kind of Submission to Gods will is Patience, which consists in an humble acquiescence to all the Afflictions which HE is pleas'd to lay upon us. This will make us easie under all his Dispensations, and entitle us to a kind of Repose even in the midst of our Troubles, and is indeed the pure effect of that Humility that does so highly recommend us to Almighty God.

Thankfulness for Gods cor- rection.

A patient Submission to the Will of God will give us a right notion of our Afflictions rather than encline us to murmurs and complaints, will convince us, that God chastizes us out of Friendship, and

so consequently that we are oblig'd to thank him for his Correction, as indeed we are upon many extraordinary Accounts, but especially as they are Marks of his Care and Love.

Our quiet, and *Fruitfulness under Afflictions.* thankfulness under Afflictions is not all neither, the Fruit of them should be Repentance, that's God's chief Design in laying them upon us; that they should force us to call our selves to an account, and enquire diligently what it is that has engag'd him to deal with us in so rough a method.

In all our Sufferings and Afflictions *in all sorts of Sufferings.* we ought to look upon God's permissive Power as the Principle Agent, and with Holy Job's Patience, let them be deriv'd to us, either from God or Man; and in his Words, bless the Name of the Lord for giving us warning.

Secondly, I told you that Humility

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Submission to God's wisdom

infinitely Wise and Just, we are to submit to him in all his Commands and Dispensations.

In his Com- mands.

bend to his Will and Word, how opposite soever it may be to our own carnal Reason or Humours, for when we consider that his Wisdom is Infinite and cannot Err, we own an Obligation to believe and obey every thing he speaks or commands.

In his Dispo- sals.

sations, and tho' many Events happen contrary to the ordinary Course of things, and are utterly above the reach of our narrow Capacities to comprehend, yet being all chosen and determin'd by the unerring

lity contain'd likewise a Submission to God's Wisdom, as well as his Will ; God being

We are to submit to him in his Commands, by making our Understanding

We are likewise to submit to the Wisdom of God in all his Dealings and Dispensions,

Wisdom

of Man Epitomiz'd. 17

Wifdom of God, we ought to submit to them, with the greatest Satisfaction and Humility.

The next Duty to God is Honour, which *Honour*.

consists in the paying him such a respect and Reverence as belongs to the greatness of his Majesty, and this may be either inwardly in our Hearts, or outwardly in our publick Actions, and Behaviour towards him.

Besides, the general, there are particular Ways of honouring God, as First, By approaching his House, the Church

*Several ways
of honouring
God, in his
House and
Possessions.*

with Reverence, and behaving our selves there with Devotion and Attention; Secondly, In his Possessions by paying our Tithes and Just Dues, which God has appointed for the maintenance of his Ministers.

The Sin of Sacrilege and defrauding the Ministry, is a very great and crying Sin; 'tis the downright robbery

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*The great sin
of Sacrilege
and the Pu-
nishment of
it.*

robbing of God, and indeed his Vengeance is nothing more discernable than in his Punishment of it; upon which account we

should have a very

strict Care never to meddle with anything set a part for God.

*The Lords
Day and
Feasts of the
Church to be
kept Holy.*

are the Sundays, or Lords-days, and other solemn Festivals appointed by the Church; this he hath strictly requir'd of us, and herein we must not disappoint him upon any pretence.

The Fasts.

Days of Fasting and Humiliation are likewise to be solemnly observed, that according to the sign of the Church, we may meet together, and humble our selves deep

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deeply before God, and with Prayers and Tears bewail our own and the Sins of the Nation.

Fourthly, We are to express our Honour to God, by paying an awful Reverence and respect to

*God's Word
the Holy
Scriptures.*

this Word, by frequent reading the Holy Scriptures, and by collecting the measures of a good Life, from those lively Oracles ; by attending upon the Duties of Religion, and being present as often as we may at the publick Catechizings and Sermons.

Catechizing in the first place is the Foundation upon which

*Of Catechi-
zing.*

the whole Christian Practice must be built, 'tis therefore the Duty of every Parent to have his Children early instructed in the Church Catechism, and for this end they are to call in the help of their respective Ministers ; and for those that have been so unhappy to want these Instructions in their Youth, it concerns

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cerns 'em as nearly as their Souls, to have their minds Principl'd with the Conditions of their Salivation as soon as they can, which neither the Consideration of their Age, nor any other pretence should perswade them to defer for one Moment.

After they are instructed in the principles of their Religion by

they ought then to apply themselves to the hearing of Sermons, which they ought to attend too, not out of Custome or Formality, but for the true ends for which they were first intended. The Doctrines are to be lockt up in our Hearts, that we may have 'em in a readiness to Combate all manner of Lust and Foilies, and to beat off all our Temptations; this is the great end of Preaching, and unless we make this use of it, it signifies little towards the Salvation of our Souls.

Fifthly, We are to Honour God in strict Reverence in the two Sacraments.

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to viz. Baptism, and the Lords Supper; the first we are to respect as a particular Covenant between God and our selves, the first and earliest Sign of our Salvation; and the second as a remembrance of Christ's Death, and the Priviledges deriv'd to us upon that account.

The Sacrament of
Baptism being admi- *Of Baptism.*
nistrated to us in our

ng Infancy. It is not expected from us to perform the Covenants which we engage our selves to by our Sureties, but then this lays the greater Obligation upon us when we come to Years of Discretion, to redouble our Duty, that we may all make the best amends we can, for off the defects of our Minority.

To come to a true knowledge of the Duties we promise at our Baptism; the right way will be to consider what our Godfathers and Godmothers Vow in our Names, and that we shall find to be, to remember the Devil and

*The Vow of
Baptism.*

all

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all his Works, by which is meant the Worshipping all false Gods, which is indeed the worshipping the Devil; Secondly, *The Pomps and Vanities of the World,* that is, all in ordinary desires of Riches and Greatness, all unlawful Sports and Excesses in Meat or Apparel, and all other sinful things wherein the World is apt to deceive us; and Thirdly, The sinful Lust of the Flesh, by which is understood all inordinate Appetites, and all unclean and carnal Desires, and this is the first part of our Covenant.

The second general thing our God-fathers and God-mothers promis'd for us in our Baptism; is, that we should believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith, as they are summ'd up to us in the Apostles Creed, and not barely believe them neighter, but to have all the Principles so deeply impress'd and engraven in our Minds, that from thence we may be able to draw sufficient Motives to the Practice of Virtue and Piety.

The

The last part of our Vow is, that we should keep Gods Holy Will and Commandments, and walk in the same all the Days of our Lives ; that is, that according to the Directions of Gods word, we should walk all our Days in the Paths of true Religion, Honesty and Sobriety.

This being in short the Substance of our Vow, the next thing is the Obligations we fall under to perform it, and herein I need only tell you, 'tis a Vow of the most solemn and binding Nature, and that you cannot break it without being not only unjust, but forsworn ; besides, 'tis our interest to keep it upon many Accounts, but especially upon the Account of the great Privileges it entitles us to, from the Promises of God convey'd to us in that Sacrament.

The strict obligations of this Vow of Baptism.

PARTITION III.

*Of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
of Preparation before, as Examina-
tion, of Repentance, Faith, and
Obedience, of Duties to be done at
the Receiving, and afterwards
&c.*

The Lord's Supper.

THE Reverence due to the Sacra-
ment of the Lord's Supper is the next thing, which according to my first Division, I shall consider by laying down what is to be done before, at, and after the Receiving.

*Things to be
done before
Receiving.*

*The first is
Examina-
tion.*

in the Judgment of St. Paul is

The first thing to be done before the Sacrament is Examination, which is a strict enquiry into the state of our Souls and the Condition of our Lives, and the

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essentially necessary, that we ought not to presume to make any approaches towards the Holy Table without it.

For the perfecting your Examination, you are to consider the Nature of your Covenant, which is a renewal of your Baptismal Vow; and since that is the chief end, three things follow in Course; First, That we be well instructed in the Covenant it self. Secondly, What have been our Breaches? And Thirdly, Then that we resolve upon a better Performance for the Future; and these three are to be the general Grounds of our Examination.

And First, You'll find that, this is a Covenant made by God with his Son Christ Jesus for the Re-
liefing the Temptation of all Mankind, and that the Conditions on our side, are an Examplifying Obedience to all his Com-
mands, and the state of our Know-
ledge in this, is the first part of our Sou-
l's examination.

The next is con- Sins.
and the third our Breaches.

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of this Covenant, which we can never know with that exactness as we ought, without comparing them with the Law of God, which as it is the truest rule and measure of our Duty; so 'tis the best means to lead us to the Knowledge and Fountain of our Sins.

Our Sins alas! are Several sorts of many sorts and degrees, and require a great deal both of our Judgment and Deliberation to enquire aright into their Causes, and Consequences. It requires a great deal of Skill to heighten and aggravate the Circumstances of our Guilt to that degree, till we come at last to a true Sence of the hainousness of them.

*Humiliation
and Contrition.*

The end of Examination is to bring us to this, and to a right Knowledge of our Sins, to humble us in the sight of God, and to melt our Hearts into a deep Sorrow and Contrition upon the Consideration

our Demerits and Injustice towards him ; we are likewise to Pray for the Assistance of God's Spirit in the discovery of all our Sins, and for his Grace that we may throughtly bewail and lament them.

After we have wrought our selves, *Confession* by the Assistance of *and Faith.* our Examination to a fixt hatred and aversion against all our Sins, then we are humbly to confess 'em to Almighty God, who by the precious Blood of his Son Jesus Christ, we are faithfully to believe, will be reconcil'd to us, and upon the account of our intire Obedience will vouchsafe us the Salvation of our Souls.

And then, when *Resolutions* we have thus exa- *of Obedience.* min'd and prepar'd our selves with Respect to our Hu- miliation and Contrition, our Con- fession and Faith, the next thing is our Resolution of Obedience, which must not be only in general, but with a particular regard to every

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individual Commandment of God, deriv'd from a fixt and solid hatred against all manner of Sins.

*Of the means
and of pre-
sent renoun-
cing of Sin.*

The means of this new, and intire Obedience must be our next Care, which will be best perfected by an impartial retreat into our own Minds; there we may discover the Springs and Fountains of our Sins, and what Temptations we are expos'd to, and so be in a capacity to shun and avoid them; and this must be done immediately too, without any manner of Delay or Pretence; for till it be done, and a Bill of Divorce given to every Lust, we are in no respect fit to meet our Redeemer at the Holy Table.

*Of imbracing
Vertue and
quickning
Graces.*

Beside this, we are to put our Souls into the best posture that we can, by imbracing all the Vertues of good Life, and possessing them with all those Graces.

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ces that may render them acceptable in the Eyes of God, and this we may do effectually, by contemplating the Promises and goodness of God, and by meditating upon the exemplary Life and Doctrine of our blessed Lord.

His Life will put us in mind of that Charity and forgiving temper, which is so often, and solemnly requir'd of us, and so essentially necessary in our Sacramental Preparations; 'tis Death for us to approach God's Feast of Love, with any manner of Ranchor or Malice; we are to bring no other Dispositions thither, but what are dictated to us from a Devout Mind. A fixt and settled Devotion, earnest and frequent Prayers, and a Soul disentangled from the world, are our properest Companions for this Sacrament, and for these we are earnestly to implore God's Assistance, without whose help in assisting us with the Graces afore-

*Charity and
Devotion
and the ne-
cessity of
those Graces.*

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mentioned, we can never expect to compleat our Preparations.

And for the better perfecting all this, we are to apply our selves to our spiritual Guide, to the Minister of our own Parish, who is the properest Person in this Case; to him without any manner of reserve we are to declare our Doubts and Jealousies, and to take his Assi-

stance and Directi-

The usefulness of a spiritual Guide.
We should
not be a-
fain'd to
discover our
selves.
ons; and herein no
sort of shame to dis-
cover our selves sought
to deter or discou-
rage us; we ought
to open our Case fair-
ly and Impartially,
that he may know
perfectly how matters

stand between God and our Souls,
and then he will be able to give us
Advice how to cure both our

Doubts and our Sins;
the doubtful and
the confident are e-
qually oblig'd to this,
our own Judgments

*As necessary
to the Confid-
ent as the
Doubtful.*

are

of Man Epitomiz'd 31

are not intirely to be relied upon in a Concern where there is so much weight and difficulty, nor is the Advantage of a spiritual Guide to be rejected, when it can be of use in the Improvement of our Preparation.

These are the Duties before the Sacrament. The next thing is, what is to be done at the Time of Receiving; and here, First, Consider thy own unworthiness, and how unfit thy Sins and Frailties, and the repeated breach of thy Vows, have render'd thee for such a Holy Table; from hence, let thy meditations lead thee to the Sufferings of Christ. When we see the Bread broken, and the Wine pour'd out, we should reflect that his blessed Body was torn, and his Blood spilt, and that it was our Sins that was the cause of both. Consider likewise that the Sufferings of Christ were the only means

*At the time
of Receiving
to meditate
upon our un-
worthiness
and Christ's
Sufferings.*

32 The VVhole Duty

The Atonement
wrought by
them; thank-
fulness for
them, the
love of Christ
in them.

to attone the wrath
of God, and then
consider what un-
expressible thanks
are due to him for
preserving thy Soul
that must have
perish'd eternally,
without his help;
this great Love of Christ for us
should stir up in us a love for him,
and engage us immediately to take
up solemn Resolutions, to Sin no
more, and that we may indeed per-
form these Resolutions we ought
garnely to beg of this crucified
Saviour, that he will by the Pow-
er of his Death, mortifie and kill
all our Corruptions.

The Benefits
of the new
Covenant
seal'd in the
Sacrament.

Just as we are about
to receive the Conso-
crated Bread & Wine
we should remember
that then God is en-
tering into a New Co-
venant with us, that he's now
giving us fresh Assurances
the Pardon of our Sins, if we per-
form

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form our part of the Condition; as soon as we have receiv'd, we ought to offer him our devoutest Prayers for that great Mercy, and should be sure never to forget to send up our Prayers to him, not more for our selves than for the good Estate of the Church, and for the Conversion of all Mankind.

After the Sacrament is over, then we ought as soon as possible, to retire our selves, and to repeat again our Prayers and Praises, and to renew our Promises, and to beg the Assistance of Gods Grace to enable us to make 'em good, and to purifie our present Purposes to the end of our Lives.

The Day we receive the Sacrament should be kept void of all worldly Cares

Not present-
ly to fall to
worldly
fairs.

34 The VVhole Duty

and Business ; we should spend that Day especially in Prayers and Meditations ; and indeed no day should

*To keep our Resolution,
and the danger of breaking them.*

them.

*Making God
and our Con-
science our E-
nemy.*

nner of Kindness and Compassion may, we raise an Enemy within our own Bosom ; our Conscience must needs fly in our Face, and upbraid us with the breach of such solemn Vows and Covenants.

Gods Mercies in pardoning us heretofore should not give us the least encouragement to provoke him again ; to presume upon this is very high abuse of his goodness

has

pass, but we should call to mind the Promises we make to God at the Sacrament, and consider seriously the danger we expose ourselves to in breaking

In breaking our Vows at the Sacrament, we make God our Enemy, and engage him to withdraw from us all man-

T

The obligation of our Sacramental Vows are perpetual, and can never be violated, without the breach of our Oaths; 'tis perpetual, 'tis true, and yet 'tis to be renew'd often. We are to do it as often as we have opportunity, in remembrance that Christ died for us. And thus I have shew'd you the Reverence we are to pay to God in his Sacrament.

God's former pardons no incouragement, the vow perpetual, yet often to be renew'd.

PARTITION . IV.

Honour due to God's Name; Sin's against it, Blasphemy, Swearing, of Assertory, Promissory, unlawful Oaths, of Perjury, vain Oaths, and the Sin of them.

THE last thing wherein we are to express a Reverence to God is in honouring

36 The Whole Duty

nouring his Name, and what this is, will be best understood by considering what are the Things by which it is chiefly dishonoured.

*Sins against
it Blasphemy
and Swear-
ing.*

or in our Thoughts, and next to that, swearing either by false Oaths or else by rash and light ones.

A false Oath may be of two kinds; as First, That by which I affirm to the thing; or, Secondly, That by which I Promise; the one we call an Assertory, and the other a Promissory Oath, and are both a very great dishonour to God's Name, when they are not taken with Sincerity and Truth, and perform'd with reality.

*Unlawful
Oaths.*

The first Sin against the Honour of God's Name is Blasphemy, the highest Degree of

which is CURsing him,

either by our Words

or in our Thoughts, and next to

that, swearing either by false Oaths

or else by rash and light ones.

A false Oath may

be of two kinds; as

First, That by which

I affirm to the thing;

or, Secondly, That by

which I Promise; the one we call an

Assertory, and the other a Promis-

sory Oath, and are both a very

great dishonour to God's Name,

when they are not taken with Sin-

cerity and Truth, and perform'd

with reality.

An Oath is the strongest Tie that can be between Man and

Man.

Man, but yet if it be unlawful in it self and contradictory, and impracticable in the Nature of it, in such a Case, though the breach even of such an Oath be a very great Sin, yet 'tis better to repent heartily of our Folly and Wickedness in making such a sinful and inconsiderate Oath, than to attempt with greater Sin and Danger in the performance of it.

There is nothing by which the Name of God greatly dishonored than by Perjury, and 'tis the highest affront can be offered to him, and indeed

we find him resenting nothing with more just severity, than this kind of Violation of his Honour, *He will me, not hold him guiltless, he has de-
sin-clar'd, what taketh his Name in vain,* m'd which is so dreadful a menace, that methinks it should engage every one that has any value for his Salvation, to keep them most strictly from this Sin.

38 The Whole Duty

All vain and light
Vain Oaths Oaths, such as are so
and, the Sin common in our Dis-
of them courses, are likewise a

very high offence a-
gainst the Majesty of the Name of
God. Our Saviour has forbidden
us to swear, even by mere Cre-
atures, to shew us, I presume the
Reverence we ought to have for
the Name of their Creator; and
sure whatever this prophanè Age
may think of it, there is nothing
does more argue a Contempt o
God, than to hear his Name Inter-
mix'd in every Period of loose Dis-
course, and violated every Moment
with horrid and impertinent Oaths.

This sort of vain
They lead to and rash Swearing
Perjury, and leads directly to Per-
are liable to jury, we grow at la
no Temptati- so Familiar with th
on. Name of God, th
at length we can u
it upon any occasion, without con-
sidering whether we swear true
false to things doubtful or certain
besid

beside this too, there is no manner of Temptation for this sort of leud Swearing, there is no kind of Pleasure or Profit in it, nor any thing else to recommend it, and so consequently 'tis a base Sin, which we wilfully commit without any manner of excuse or pretence.

'Tis a dangerous Vice, and therefore every Man that values the Salvation of his Soul, ought to renounce it with the greatest Caution and Concern; the means are always ready before him, *viz.* the Sence of the Guilt and Danger of it, when he considers the great dis-honour that his rash Oaths offer to the Name of God, and that Eternal Misery must be his Punishment; unless he Repents, he must needs sure be toucht with a Sence of his Guilt and Danger, and these must certainly argue very strongly with him to renounce 'em.

*The Necessity
of abstaining
from them ;
the means ;
the Sence of
the Guilt and
Danger.*

Speak-

40 The Whole Duty

Truth in speaking, forsaking occasions.

Speaking Truth is likewise a very great means to restrain us from rash Oaths when Men once come it to be observable for

their Truth and Integrity, there's up no need of an Oath to confirm the Veracity of what they say; we ought also to avoid all occasions that are most liable to betray us to this Vice, to preserve constantly a

Reverence to God.

deep and profound Veneration for the Name of God, which we should never men-

tion without Respect, and that will be an excellent means to prevent us against the prophaning it with our Oaths.

Another great means to restrain us from rash Oaths, is to keep a strict and constant

Watchfulness and Prayer.

Watch over our Words, and then to use the great remedy of all Prayer, that God would enable thee to avoid a

over

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overcome this wicked Custom.
And thus by these several ways of
dishonouring God's Name, we may
easily perceive what
it is to Honour it, *What it is to*
which is all founded *Honour God's*
upon an awful Re- *Name.*
spect and Reverence,
which is due to that sacred Name,
that is Great, Wonderful, and Ho-
ly.

PARTITION V.

*Of Worship due to God's Name, of
Prayer, and its several Parts, of
Publick Prayers in the Church, of
Private Prayers, of Repentance,
&c. of Fasting.*

THE next great *Worship.*
Duty to God is
Worship, a Duty only peculiar to
himself, and therefore of a very
great Importance; and is to be per-
form'd, First, By our Souls; and
Secondly, By our Bodies, the Souls
part

42 The VVhole Duty

*Prayer its
Parts.*

part is Praying, and of that there are divers Parts, according to the different things for which we ask.

Confession. Confession is the first, and may be either general or particular, the former is a necessary part of our solemn Prayers, whether Private or Publick ; and the latter more proper for the Private ; and the intent of it is, that we should humble our selves before God, and with a deep and hearty Sorrow bewail the Sins we Confess.

Petitions for Prayer. The second part of Petitions for Prayer is Petition, by our souls and bodies.

which we beg of God whatsoever we want, either for our Souls or Bodies. For our Souls, we beg the Pardon of our Sins, and the Assistance of his Grace to enable us to obey his Will. For our Bodies, we beg the necessaries of Life, such outward things I mean, that he in his Wisdom sees most fit and needful for us.

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A third part of Prayer is Deprecation, by which we intreat God that he would turn away from us the evil of our Sins, and the Punishments due to them; that he would prevent us from all Sin, and enable us against all Temptations, and that he would forbear to chastize us with Spiritual or Temporal Punishments.

The next part of Prayer is Intercession, which consist in Praying for others, both for Strangers and Acquaintance, but in a particular Manner for the Governours of the Church and State, and for our Relations and Friends.

Another Part of Prayer is Thanksgiving, which is the praising and magnifying God for all his Mercies both Spiritual and Temporal; for the blessings of our Souls and Bodies, but

44 The VVhole Duty

but above all for the sending his Son to redeem us, and the Holy Ghost to comfort us, and for all other his Favours vouchsaf'd to us in his Word and Sacraments.

These are the several sorts of Prayer to be used both Publick and Private. The Publick use of them is first in the Church, from whence we must not absent our selves without

some necessary Cause; and Secondly, In our own Families, where every Master is strictly bound to call to his Children and Servants to the daily exercise of them.

Private Prayer.

we have an opportunity to be more particular than convenient in Publick, and upon no account or pretence whatsoever to be omitted.

Prayer is a Duty, that requires a frequent performance by none seldom

domer than Evening and Morning ; we should always begin and end the Day with our Addresses to Almighty God, oftner if we have any conveniency, and indeed did we consider the advantages of Prayer, we should think it great Wisdom to use it as frequently as possible.

*Frequent
Prayer very
advantage-
ous.*

For First, 'Tis a great Honour, that such mean and contemptible Wretches as we are, should be admitted but to speak to the great God of Heaven and Earth ; and then 'tis a Benefit, the highest that can be Imagin'd, Prayer being that Immediate source of all the Advantages we either want or wish, besides 'tis a pleasant Duty in it self, and to a truly Pious & Devout Mind, it affords abundance of substantial Delight and Satisfaction.

The Carnal Minds indeed can discover none of these Advantages, the

46 The Whole Duty

*Carnality
and want of
use the Cau-
ses that
makes it
seem other-
ways,*

the Pleasures of the Flesh, and the dross of the World lie in the way, and those have so vitiated their Pallates, that they can taste none of the pleasantness in it; others think it unpleasant for

want of a frequent usage, and beside these two, there is nothing can dis-
suade us from the real Pleasure and Advantage of it.

The next thing is, how well we perform this Duty, and herein we are chiefly concern'd for the Mat-

*To ask no-
thing unlaw-
ful, but with
Faith, Hu-
mility and
Attention.*

ters of our Prayers since we are to ask nothing unjust or unlawful, but all with Faith, and of Humility, and with the most profound Impression, and deliberate Attention.

Opposite to Attention in Prayer, is all wandering thoughts; the Con-
sequence of which are very dangerous. To suppress these, we shoul-

con-

consider the greatness
of that Majesty to
whom we are speak-
ing, the worth of
those things we ask
for, and our own ex-
traordinary Wants to-
gether.

*Help against
Wandering
the Consider-
ation of
Gods Maje-
sty and our
own needs.*

*To pray for
Gods aid
with Watch-
fulness, Zeal
Purity; and
for proper
ends.*

We must likewise
invoke God's Assis-
tance, and set a care-
ful Watch over our
Hearts to keep all
wandering thoughts
out of our Minds,
whilst we are conver-
sing with Him ; all
our Petitions should be put up to him
with the highest Zeal and Ardency
of Soul ; Our Prayers should be ab-
stracted from all manner of Sin and
Impurity, and be constantly direct-
ted to right and proper ends.

This is the first part of Worship,
the next is Bodily
Worship, and this con-
sists in humble and re-
verend Gestures in
con-

*Bodily Wor-
ship.*

ma-

48 The Whole Duty

making our approaches to God, in such a decent lowliness of Body, that may best declare with what a Prostration of Soul, we make our Addresses before the Throne of Grace.

Repentance turning from Sin to God, this Duty to be done daily.

Repentance is the next Duty we owe to God, and is in short nothing else but a general Resolution to forsake our Sins, and to implore his Grace for the times for this

great Duty are as often as we think upon our Sins; every Day at least we ought to call our selves to an account.

At set times, at the time of Affliction, at Death.

At some particular times indeed, we are oblig'd to redouble our Repentance, and those times we ought

to fix for our selves, at least once a Week. We ought to have a set time of Evening our Accounts with God and our Consciences, the time of Affliction and Calamity is a very proper season

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for it, and at our Death we are the most solemnly oblig'd to renew it.

But 'tis dangerous to defer it till Death, we should not hazard our Souls upon such uncertainties; beside, a Death-bed Repentance must conse-

*The danger
and disad-
vantage of
Death-bed
Repentance.*

quently want several Qualifications which the Nature of true Repen-

*The Custom
of Sin hard
to be van-
quish't, Pains
the Cause of
Insincerity.*

tance requires; the Custom of Sin is not to be destroy'd in a few days, or hours, perhaps moments, besides too, our pains and Agonies most

probably disturb our Thoughts, and then our Repen-

tance can never be dress'd up with that strict Sincerity, which God re-

quires of us for the Salvation of our

Souls.

To Repentance, the Duty of Fast-
ing may with great Reason be an-
nex'd, which is a Duty we find so
solemnly recommended by God him-
self;

50 The Whole Duty

Fasting, a revenge upon our selves, acceptable to God, yet no satisfaction for Sin.

Sins, is doubtless very acceptable to God, and yet we ought not to think them sufficient without the Merits of Christ's Blood to attone for our Offences.

Times of Fasting.

The Scripture has indeed given no particular Direction, how often this great Duty of Fasting is to be perform'd, but the oftner the better; for being a great Instrument of our Humiliation, we ought to take all Opportunities to perform it, which our Health and Circumstances will admit.

And thus I have pass'd through the first Branch of our Duty to God, to wit, the acknowledging him to be our God; the second is the ha-

ving

of Man Epitomiz'd. 51

ving no other, and of this I need say no more, then that by it we are forbid all kind of Idolatry and Superstitious Worshipping of Images or Creatures, and all inward Idolatry of the Mind.

Duty to our Selves.

PARTITION VI.

Of Sobriety, of Humility, the great Sin of Pride, of vain Glory, the Danger, Folly, the means to prevent it, of Meekness, &c.

THIS Duty to our *Duty to our Selves*, is by St. *Selves*.

Paul summ'd up in the word *SOBERLY*, by which his meaning must be our keeping within those bounds which God has set us, both with respect to our Souls and Bodies; and this sober Government of the Soul requires a

D 2 great

52 The Whole Duty

Humility.

great many *Vertues*, of which I place *Humility* in the first Rank.

Humility gives us low and humble thoughts of our selves, directs us to behave our selves easily under the mean Opinion of others, and withal is directly opposite to all kind of Pride, and vain Glory; two of the most dangerous Enemies to Mankind.

Pride a great Sin, betrays us to other Sins, frustrates all Remedies.

Exposees us to punishment.

' Pride in the first Place, is a very great and provoking Sin, and has been often shewn by God's severe Punishments of it, it is in some respects, either a Parent or Nurse to most other Vices, by betraying us first, and then by

drawing us in to reject all Remedies and by frustrating all the designs and overtures of Gods Mercies; and beside this too, it betrays us to Punishments, God having all along declar'd himself the proud Mans particular Enemy.

' T

'Tis likewise a very foolish Vice, a Vice that argues the greatest Folly that can be, because there can be nothing either in the Goods of Nature, Fortune or Grace, that with any reasonable pretence we can be proud of.

That this dangerous and foolish Sin is to be avoided, I suppose we may take for granted, and the chief Means to do it, are by applying our selves to God for the

Grace of Humility; which may be best ac-

*Means of
Humility.*

quir'd by a Reflection upon our own Sins, Follies, Meanness and Imperfections; - to which we ought to joyn our hearty Prayers, that God would make us some of those poor in spirit to whom the Blessings of Heaven are promis'd.

Secondly, Vain Glory; that is, an empty thirst after the Praise of Men, is likewise opposite to Humi-

54 The Whole Duty

*Vain Glory ;
the Sin, Dan-
ger, and Fol-
ly of it.*

lity, and a very great Sin ; for it betrays Men into several dangers, but more especially erraces Christ out of their Hearts.

*Tis an Indication of Folly too, which every one must be satisfied in, that would but consider what 'tis he hunts for, only a little empty Applause, a little popular Air, which can never bring him any so-

*Helps a-
gainst Vain-
Glory.*

lid advantage ; the Means to help this, are to consider our selves in the first place

and then the true state of things in the second, and to weigh both in the Ballance of Wisdom and Sobriety.

*Meekness
and the ad-
vantages of
it.*

Meekness ; that is, a Calm and peaceful Temper is another great Virtue, and may be exercised both with respect to God, and our selves, that towards God falls under the Head of Humility, and

and is already spoken to; as it respects our selves, 'tis an Advantage in a great many Particulars; more especially as it promotes our Honour and Reputation, enables us to bear the Sufferings of Humane Life with Ease and Moderation, and with Prudence and a good posture of Mind; and the proper Means to obtain this most admirable Virtue, are by comparing the Loveliness and Benefits of it, with the ugliness and mischiefs of Rage and Anger, but above all, by contemplating the Life and Example of that great Pattern of all Meekness *Jesus Christ.*

Consideration is a third Virtue, that relates to the Soul, and directs us to prepose both our State and our Actions; to weigh our State first,

and to consider both the Grounds of our Faith, and the Case of our Souls; and accordingly to prepare

56 The VVhole Duty

our selves against the Day of Death
and Judgment ; and
*The Danger
of Inconside-
ration.*

the general Cause of all our Sins and
Misfortunes.

*Of our Ac-
tions before,
and after we
do them.*

It directs us too in
our Actions ; teaches
us to advise with our
Consciences, and to
debate the probable
good or ill of every
thing we do before we do it, and to
examine likewise those things that
we have already done, whether
they may be warranted by the Laws
of God, and the Rules of Religion
and Sobriety ; upon many Accounts
therefore we are to employ it often,
both with respect to our State and

Actions, and to make
up our Accounts fre-
quently ; and the
plain Reason for it is
this , because our
Lives are so waver-
ing

*Frequency of
Considerati-
on and Dan-
ger of omit-
ting it.*

ing and uncertain, that we hazard our Salvation, when ever we lie down to sleep in an unrepented Sin.

PARTITION VII.

Of Contentedness, and the contraries to it; Murmuring, Ambition, Covetousness, Envy; Helps to Contentedness; of Duties which concern our Bodies; of Chastity, &c. Helps to it; of Temperance.

THE next Duty *Contentment* to our selves is contentedness, which consists in an evenness and an humble acquiescence under any State it shall please God to allot for us; and without this, 'tis impossible we should be in any tolerable Condition of Happiness. The Contraries to it, are Murmuring and Impatience under God's Dispensations, all Ambitious

*The contraries, murmur-
ring, Ambi-
tion and Co-
vetousness.*

58 The VVhole Duty

bitious Thoughts and Desires, and all sorts of Covetousness, Gripings and Extortions.

Covetousness contrary to our Duty to God, our Selves, and our Neighbours.

Covetousness is a very great and high Offence, and directly opposite to the great Duties we owe to God, our Selves, and our Neighbours ; 'tis opposite to our Duty to God, by taking our Minds off from him, and embracing them with the Cares and Troubles of the World ; 'tis opposite to our Duties to our Selves, both with regard to our Souls and Bodies, by urging us to sacrifice the first to a little Pelf and Dross, and the latter to Pains and Disappointments, and so 'tis opposite to our Duties to our Neighbours, both in our Justice and Charity, by forcing us upon unlawful Means, and by setting us upon false and indirect measures ; contentedness is also contrary to all kind of Envy.

Contentedness contrary to Envy.

Envy and Malice, and can never inhabit in any Breast, that is the least tinctur'd with Prejudice or Revenge.

Helps for Content. *Helps to content* are the Consi-

deration of God's Goodness, Power, and Justice, and his universal Care of the World, that all our Affairs are in his Hand, who knows our wants better than our selves; Secondly, We should consider the Vanity of all Earthly things, by comparing them with the essential Joys of Heaven; that we are here but as Strangers and Pilgrims, and that whatever our outward Condition may be, there's a time coming when we shall be deliver'd from the burthen of all our Sins and Sorrows, and be enstated in a Happiness large as our wish, and lasting as our Souls.

A Fifth Duty is Diligence, which is a Duty which we likewise owe to our Souls by watching carefully over

Diligence. It
consists in
Watchfulness
and Industry.

60 The Whole Duty

*to improve
the Gifts of
Nature and
Grace.*

*every Virtue, and in all the Gifts
of Nature, and the accomplishments
of Grace.*

*Good Motions to be improv'd,
the danger of de-
ferring them*

*God withdraws from us all manner
of kindness, and turns us up to a
reprobate Sence ; and thus far of
the Vertues which belong to our
Souls, I come next to those that be-
long to our Bodies.*

*Chastity, for-
bids all ma-
ner of un-
cleanliness.*

*the grosser Acts of Adultery and
For-*

*over them, and dili-
gently guarding them
against all Dangers,
and then improving
them industriously in*

*We must likewise
improve and cherish
all good Motions, and
make the most of eve-
ry Holy Suggestion,
lest upon our despising
the overtures of Grace*

*In the front of these
I place Chastity, a
Vertue which strictly
forbids all manner of
wantonness and un-
cleanliness, not only*

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Fornication, but likewise all impure Thoughts, and all unchaste Looks and Gestures.

The Beauty of Chastity can be no how better describ'd, then by comparing it with the loathsomeness of Lust, and the many Evils and mischiefs that spring from it. Lust

defaces the Dignity of our very Souls, and sinks the rational Creature into a Brute ; it makes our Minds foul and filthy, and loads our Bodies with Diseases and Deformity, and what's worst of all, does generally call down Gods great and heavy Judgments upon us, and shuts the Gate of Heaven against us Eternally.

These and many other are the sad effects of Uncleanness, against which we ought to fortifie our selves by avoiding In-

*The mischief
of it, both to
Body and
Soul, and
God's Judg-
ments against
it.*

*It shuts us
out from
Heaven.*

*Helps to
Chastity.*

*In-
dulgence,*

62 The Whole Duty

dleness, and improving our Minds in all kind of active Vertue; by avoiding all manner of Temptation, and all leud Company, but above all, by praying earnestly, that God would give us a Spirit of Purity.

The second Virtue **Temperance** relating to our Bodies in Eating. is Temperance, and the Exercises of that are divers, *i. e.* in Eating, Drinking, Sleeping, Recreation, and Apparel; I shall speak of them separately, and begin with Eating.

The ends of it to preserve Life and Health. Temperance in Eating, is then observed, when we make agreeable to the ends for which God and Nature design'd it;

to wit, the Preservation of Life and Health; those are the sole ends of it, and he that proposes it either to gratifie his Taste, or Pamper his Body, Crosses Gods original Purpose in it, and breaks all the Rules of Temperance by which it should be regulated; nay, he Sacrifices

all

all his other Sences to his Taste, exposes himself to the Character of a Glutton, and what's worst of all, to the Fate of that rich Glutton, that after all his Dainties wanted at last a drop of Water to cool his Tongue.

*Rules for
Temperance,
and the
means of it.*

PARTITION VIII.

Of Temperance in Drinking; false ends of Drinking, viz. Good Fellowship, putting away Cares, &c.

TH E next thing in Drinking is Temperance directed to in Drinking; the *false Ends*. right Ends whereof are the very same with Eating, viz. the preserving our Lives and supporting our Healths, but this like the former has been sadly subverted and directed to Purposes strangely distant from the Original intent of it.

Men

64 The Whole Duty

*False end of
Drinking.
Good-Fel-
lowship.*

under the pretence that 'tis a great

*Preserving
Kindness*

*Chearing the
Spirits, and
putting away
Cares.*

drives away the cares and perplexities of Human Life ; that 'tis very fit for the passing away time , and filling up empty Intervals, nay some will tell us 'tis a

*Preventing
Reproach.*

*Pleasure of
Drinking.*

Men now drink themselves into Beasts under the common, but false Notion of Good-Fellowship ; others drink to excess,

that will have it, that 'tis highly useful to chear the Spirits, and to correct and dispel Melancholy ; that it Reproach not to do it, and argues a great deal of sorenness and disingenuity , many there are that drink for drinking sake, that love the Liquor, and

and so are lots without any of the former Pretences; but these are all great mistakes, and truly upon a fair State of the Matter, 'tis a subje&t fit both for our Wonder and Sorrow, how this unaccountable Practice of excessive drinking should have so unluckily encroach'd upon all Societies ; that no Bargain can be made *Bargaining.* (which is another pretence for it) nor nothing of any Moment transacted, but the Tavern, or the Ale-house must be the Place fixt upon for the doing of it.

The unreasonable-
ness of these Motives *Degrees of this Sin.*
is too plain to admit
of a Dispute, they are all so ridiculous, absurd and inconsistent, that upon a short Appeal to common Experience we find 'em exploded and condemn'd; every Degree of this Sin is a high breach of Temperance; every drop we drink beyond what is convenient for moderate Refreshment, is an Offence both against God

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*The great
Guilt of
strong drink-
ers.*

accountable.

*The great
Mischiefs of
the Sin, an
Exhortation
to forsake it.*

a reproach to Christianity, and a Destruction both to our Souls and Bodies; sure a few Exhortations may serve to prevail with us to forsake it.

*Difficulties of
forsaking it con-
sider'd, viz. Ne-
cessity of drink,
want of employ
and Reproaches
and Persuasions
of Men.*

God and Man, and the strong Drinker above all the rest, both from the evil of his Examples, and Practice the most un-

A man would think that the many Mischiefs that attend this Sin should be a warning to us to avoid it, when we consider 'tis a dishonour to God,

And why should any seeming Difficulties dissuade us against parting with so dangerous a Vice; why should we plead Custom, or the Necessity of Drink, or why should

should we betray so much Folly, nay so much Wickedness to make drinking the business of our Lives. Alas! 'tis a mistake, and let the vain deluded Drunkard say what he will, it can be no Reproach to us to reject all Intemperances of this kind, and all the Persuasions of Men upon that Account.

The Means to resist these, and all other Temptations for intemperate Drinking, are to weigh the Good with the Ill, and the pretended Advantages with the real Losses and Dangers, and to reject them at their very beginnings, and to avoid all manner of Occasions and Opportunities, this we may do, if it be not our own fault, and these and such like means will effectually do the

Means to resist this Sin, by weighing the advantage with the hurt, and rejecting the Temptations

Security to do so.

Love of the Sin binders makes Men loath to believe the danger.

Bu-

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Business, if our mistaken Love to Vice does not hinder it, and make us unwilling to believe it, either dangerous or destructive.

PARTITION IX.

*Temperance in Sleep; the Rule of it,
Mischiefs of Sloth, of Recreations,
Cautions to be observ'd in them of
Apparel.*

Sleep.

The Rule of Temperance therein; many Sins follow the Transgression of it, with other inconveniences.

least at length it enclines us to Sloth, which is ordinarily attended with a whole train of dangerous Sins, and with

Sleep is a Third part of Temperance, which is likewise, if measur'd by the end for which God ordain'd it, only for a Refreshment; and a support for our frail Bodies; and in this we are likewise to take Care not to indulge ourselves to far,

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with abundance of other great Inconveniences.

We should likewise have a very high regard to Temperance in our Recreations, and be perpetually Cautious, that they are lawful in their kind, and no ways dishonourable to God, or Injurious to our Neighbour ; we should be very careful too, that they never tend to undue Ends, but are all exactly Innocent, harmless and inoffensive.

*Temperance
in Recreati-
ons.*

*Cautions to
be observ'd:*

*Undue Ends
of Sports.*

The last part of Temperance is that of Apparel, and this as well as the rest is to be measured according to the ends for which Cloathing was ordain'd ; which were first to provide a modest and decent covering to hide our Nakedness, this was the first and great End of it ; the second was to fence our Bodies from the Severities of

*Temperance
in Apparel.*

the

70 The Whole Duty

Apparel design'd for a covering of shame.

Fencing from Cold.

Qualities. Now these are the three grand Ends of our Apparel, which

Distinction of Persons.

diness and contempt.

And thus I have pass'd through the several Branches of Temperance and herein I would in no respect

Too much sparing, a fault as well as Excess.

counted for, then any of the former; and is in many Particulars

the Cold, and secure to us such a convenient Warmth that is necessary for the Preservation of our Health; and the third for the distinguishing Persons both with respect to their Sex, and Qualities. Now these are the three grand Ends of our Apparel, which we should always be careful to preserve in the middle, between the extremes of gaudiness and contempt.

And thus I have pass'd through the several Branches of Temperance and herein I would in no respect

seem to advance a contrary extreme; i.e. too much sparingness, which is indeed a fault as well as Excess. A

tous griping Temperance is no more to be accounted for, than any of the former; and is in many Particulars

high breach of our Duty both to God, our Selves, and our Neighbours.

PARTITION X.

Of Duty's to our Neighbours. Of Justice, Negative, Positive, of the Sin of Murther, of the Hainousness of it, the Punishment of it, and the strange Discoveries thereof. Of Maiming, &c.

Duties to our Neighbours.

In the Word Righteousness are contained in gross the Duties to our Neighbour; and in the larger Sence it contains all kind, both of Justice, and Charity. I begin with Justice, of which there are two sorts, Negative and Positive.

By Negative Justice, we are forbid to do any wrong to any

*Duties to our
Neighbour
--- Justice.*

*Negative
Justice.*

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any Man; either in respect to his Soul; Body, his Possessions, or his Credit; and first we must not do a

*To the Soul
in the Natu-
ral and Spi-
ritual Sence.*

ny manner of Injury p
to the Soul, either in ne
a Natural and Spiri
tual Sence; we mu In
take great Care tha sel

we give no occasion an

Grief or Sadness to the Mind of an So
Man, in which Sence the Soul
said to be naturally injur'd; and b ion
alike diligent not to administer few
him the Cause, either of Sin or P Me
nishment, in which Case the Soul w
may be spiritually wrong'd.

*Drawing in-
to Sin, a great
Injury.*

Sin is the Disease
and Wound of the
Soul, and the sedwha
cing us to it is this
greatest Injury the

can be done us. There are severnd
Means for this, both direct and inmor
rect; the direct Means are Rep

*Direct and
indirect
means of it.*

commanding us, cothe n
selling, enticing ratio
assisting us; the N
direct Means by the lace

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ing us ill Examples, or by encouraging us in any Wickedness; by justifying Vice, and by throwing Reproach upon the Duties, and strictness of Religion, and by these, and such like Means, Both direct and Indirect, Men bring upon themselves the great guilt of injuring and wounding their Brethrens Souls.

It would be too long to instance, the several Sins by which Men ensnare others: So will therefore leave it with this Caution, (as that it concerns them

as near as their Souls, to consider what Injuries they have done of this kind, and to bewail them with the deepest concern and Sorrow; and not only that neither, but as a more particular Testimony of their Repentance, to do their best by all the means they can to make Reparation.

Negative Justice in the second place binds us against all kind of

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*Negative
Justice in re-
spect of the
Life.*

*Severalways
of being guil-
ty of Mur-
ther.*

*The hainous-
ness of the
Sin, and the
Punishments
of it.*

than any other Vice in all the black
and dreadful Catalogue.

*The strange
discoveries
of it.*

Injury to the Bodies,
more especially a-
gainst the Life of our
Brethren. Murther
is a Sin of the deepest
Dye, and may be
committed either openly and di-
rectly, or else secretly and treache-
rously. It may be
done, either by open
and Publick Violence,
or else effected under
the Coverture of con-
ceal'd Malice and Re-
venge, but which way soever it be
the Sin is of that ex-
alted hainousness, that
it provokes God to
higher degree of An-
ger in the Execution
of his Vengeance and
Punishments upon

It is worth our No-
tice by what miracu-
lous Means God has
been pleas'd to dislike w

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ver it ; and indeed would we but take 'em to our serious Thoughts, it must needs possess us with the greatest Horrour and Abomination of it, and engage us to watch and guard our selves against the most distant approaches of this Vice.

*We must
Watch a-
gainst all ap-
proaches.*

Next to the Murthe-ring, the maiming and disabling our Neighbour is a very great Sin , this we must grant, by reflecting how precious our Limbs are, and how miserable a thing the want of any of 'em is ; especially, if it be a poor Man ; in such a Case, though we can never make him a full Satisfaction, we are the most solemnly bound to provide for his own, and his Families wants.

*Maiming, an
Injury which
every Man
dreads.*

*Worst in a
poor Man.*

*A necessity
of Satisfac-
tion.*

Unlawful Wounds and Stripes are likewise highly inconsistent with that

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*Wounds and
Stripes inju-
rious also.*

*Cruelty to
others the ef-
fect of Pride.*

that golden Rule of Loving our Neighbour as our Selves, and indeed our Cruelty to others, argues not only a great deal of Pride and Insolence, but withal savageness and brutishness of mind, much below the common tenderness and compassion that becomes the human Nature.

PARTITION XI.

*Of Justice about the Possessions of our
Neighbours; against injuring him
in his Wife, his Goods; of Oppre-
ssion; Theft; of paying of Debts
&c.*

*This Possessi-
on.*

THE next part of Negative Justice, relates to the Possessions of our Neighbours, the front of which we may with great Reason place the Wife.

Wiv

Wives, are the principle part of our Possessions, and the corrupting Her to defile Her Husbands bed, is the worst and highest part of Injustice both to the Man and the Woman ; this is an irreparable sort of Injury. A Vice that God has declar'd that he himself will Judge, and we may depend upon't, without Repentance, that Judgment of his will be the most severe and dreadful.

*The Wife ;
the enticing
her, great in-
justice to the
Woman and
the Man.*

*The most Ir-
reparable.*

Next to this, we owe a Negative Justice to our Neighbour with respect to his Goods ; such as are his House, *His Goods.* Land, Cattel, Money, &c. and the two ordinary Causes that engages Men to break it, are either Malice or Covetousness.

That Part of Injustice that is founded upon pure Malice, is commonly acted upon the De-

*Malicious
Injustice.*

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vils Principle, like him they seek to destroy others; not so much, as 'tis any good to themselves, but out of a natural desire to do mischief, the other part that is found-

ed upon Covetousness

Covetous In- justice.

though indeed it may have something of a base and sordid De-

sign in it; yet when 'tis considered, 'tis always attended by Oppression, Theft and Deceit, it wants very little to come up to the wickedness of the former.

Oppression and Gods Vengeance a- gainst it.

Oppression is an insolent bare-fac'd Robbery, and so much the worse still, because the Poor are generally the Persons injur'd;

we have many Lectures against every kind of it, in Holy Scripture, but especially against that which affects the Fatherless and Widow; 'tis indeed a most crying guilt, and God's heavy Vengeance is no one instance more exemplary, he that has oppress't the Poor; saith the Pro-

Prophet, shall surely die, and his Blood shall be upon him.

Theft is another kind of this Injustice, which in general is twofold, the first is the withholding what we should pay, and the last the taking from our Neighbour what

Theft; not paying what we borrow, are bound for, or Promise.

we have no Right too; the first as well as the last, is a plain Act of Robbery, and let the present Practice of the World argue never so much for it, it can never prove, but that by common Justice and Honesty we are strictly engag'd, to the utmost of our Abilities, to discharge all the debts we are oblig'd to, either by Bond, Promise, or any other lawful Obligation.

E. Hobart's PAR-

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PARTITION XII.

Of Theft ; Stealing ; of Deceit in Trust ; in Traffick ; of Restitution, &c.

*Stealing the
Goods of our
Neighbour.*

THE next Part of Theft is ; either by open Violence or private Fraud, the Robbing our Neighbour of that which he is in possession of. This is a Vice that wants no Aggravation ; it need not be disputed, but that both the High-way Man and House-breaker, as well as the fly, injurious Pilferer are two Ranks of degenerate Creatures so odious to God, that they are unfit for humane Society. There are a great many Branches of this sort of Robbery, as the Concealing of stol'n Goods, the buying them at cheap Rates, with many others, which I need not mention any further, they being at best but a kind of Robbery. God will

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will be sure to deal severely with us upon that account, although perhaps we may escape the Cognizance of the Law.

A third Part of Injustice is Deceit, of *Deceit*. which the Acts are so numerous, that 'tis morally impossible to Name 'em all: I shall Rank them therefore under these two general Heads, viz. The Deccits of Trust, and Traffick.

He that deceives a Man in a Matter of *In Trust*. Trust that is committed to him, is guilty of the most treacherous and base Injustice; in such a Case we are to behave ourselves with the utmost Fidelity; especially, when any thing for the uses of Piety or Charity are committed to our Charge; he that violates his Faith in these particulars, adds Sacrilege to Fraud and Treachery, and entails upon him all the Curses that are due to those Sins.

As to Matters of Traffick, there

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*In Traffick.
By the Sel-
lers concea-
ling the
faults, and
over-rating
their Wares.*

may be deceit both in the Buyer and Seller; the Seller Sins greatly, when by a Connection of Lies, perhaps Oaths and Execrations, he conceals or excuses the faults in his Commodities, or what's as bad, sells by false weights and measures, or imposes an extravagant unreasonable Price upon the Buyer; these are indeed grown very common and practick faults, but yet never the more excusable, the great Judge of Truth and Equity has often declar'd his solemn displeasure against 'em, and will be sure, sooner or later, to punish them to the utmost.

*Fraud in the
Buyer.*

The Buyer may be guilty of Fraud too, and though indeed he does not fall under so many Temptations as the Seller, yet whenever he makes an advantage of his Neighbours Wants, and Purchases his Commodities at un-

der Rates, without doubt he offends the Justice of God, by thus insulting upon, and making his Advantage of his Brothers Necessities.

The Temptations to Deceit in Traffick, Many Temptations are so interwoven with all Trades, that it behoves every dealing Man to have a great Care to guard himself against them, this way of Cheating is become a perfect Trade it self, and Men boast of it, and value themselves upon it, but for all that the Eyes of God are too pure to behold such Iniquity ; nay, 'tis even a scandal to our Christian Profession, a very high and solemn breach of those common Rules of Justice and Equity laid down in the Precepts of the Gospel to be the Standard and Guide of our Actions.

*The common-
ness, a Re-
proach to
Christianity.*

Besides all this, 'tis but a mistaken Principle neither, Fraud and undermining, deceitful measures and

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and false ballances are
It is no way not the right way to
to make a make us Rich, there
Man Rich, goes a secret Curse a-
but ruins long with such kind
the Soul. O

generally executed in
this Life ; which though it may by
chance fail here, it never fails in
the next ; there the Deceiver will
be fatally deceiv'd in the loss of his
Soul, the Consideration of which
should methinks put
Restitution. him upon the grand
Remedy, Restitution,
without which he can never make
any tolerable Attonement for the
Injury he has done either to God or
his Neighbour.

PAR-

PARTITION XIII.

Of false Reports; false Witness; Publick Slanders, Wisperings; of Scoffing, Calamities, Sins, &c. Of Positive Justice, Truth, Lying. Of Envy and Detraction, of Gratitude, &c.

THE Credit of His Credit. our Neighbour

is another part of Negative Justice, which should be as dear to us as his Possessions, and should in no respect be impair'd either by false Reports or malicious Surmizes and Conjectures, from both which our Reputation, the dearest thing we have, next our Souls, is liable to great Injury.

False Reports may be spread divers ways, both Publick and Private, the Publick way is ordinarily, by bearing false Witness, either with regard to our Lives or Estates; this

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this is a most grievous Wound indeed to our Credit, a sort of outragious Injustice to our Neighbour, that we are hardly ever able to make him amends for.

The second open way of spreading these Reports is by Publick Slander, and herein our Reputation is also liable to a great deal of Injury. Reproaches, Lying, Scandal and Railing make up the base Composition, which as the Apostle long ago observ'd, were among'st other Works of the Flesh, fit only to shut Men out of the Church here, and the Kingdom of Heaven hereafter.

The Private way of spreading such Reports as Whispering, this is a way as dangerous if not worse than the former, and is by St. Paul mention'd in the Catalogue of great Crimes, which are the effect of a Reprobate Mind; this is a kind of Slander, that like secret Poyson destroys us insensibly; 'tis Solomons Ob-

Observation; that the Whisperer separates chief Friends, than which nothing can argue louder for the suppressing of it.

The several Steps *Several*
of this Vice are to be *Steps toward*
carefully avoided, as *this Sin.*

First, We should be
so far from encouraging it, that
we should rather reject the very
first approaches of the Tale-bearer:
Secondly, We should be very Cau-
tious how we believe false Reports,
or rather we should never give any
Credit at all to them: And Third-
ly, We should be sure never to re-
port any thing we hear from such
kind of People, but look upon 'em
no less Enemies to us, than to those
of whom they are speaking.

Besides, this open way of impairing our Neighbours Credit, there is yet another, which though it may seem to be a little more plausi-
ble, is yet in all respects as bad as
the former; I mean
Scoffing and Reviling, *Scoffing and*
which indeed is not *Reviling.* *only*

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only an Injury to our Neighbour,
but even to God himself.

The three Things
For Infirmitie, *Calamities*, and *Sins*.
for which Men are
commonly revil'd, are
either for their Infir-
mities, their Calam-
ties or their Sins;

and why should Men be despis'd
for that which they cannot help,
this is calling God's Providence to
an Account, especially with respect
to the two former; indeed for our
Sins they have more of our Wills,
'tis true, but then considering they
make us the most miserable of any
thing else, without doubt they re-
quire a great deal of our Pity and
Compassion.

*Destroying
the Credit, a
great Injury,
and irrepa-
rable.*

We owe likewise a
Negative Justice to
the Credit and Repu-
tation of our Neigh-
bour; his Credit is
the most valuable
thing he has, and
therefore to Rob him of that, is
the highest Injury we can do him;
'tis

'tis the highest, because his Damage is irreparable; the utmost we can do, can never make him amends, and yet we must do our best, because without it we can never expect God's pardon for the Sin.

Every guilty Person to do all he can in Order to it.

Thus I have past through the four Branches of Negative Justice to our Neighbour, and yet must further observe, that this Justice binds our Thoughts as well as our Words and Actions; nay, it confines even our Wishes and Affections. Our whole Hearts should be intent upon his Good, and our Minds constantly taken up, which way we may best promote the Happiness both of his Soul and Body.

Justice in the Thoughts.

I come now to speak of Positive Justice, by which is intended the giving to every Man his proper dues, whether General, or Particular;

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*Speaking
Truth, a due
to all Men.*

lar; as First, The speaking Truth in general of all Mankind; this is a common debt we owe to every one, and indeed we are bound to the strict performance of it, by many strong and weighty Obligations, but the greatest of all is, because Lying is a Vice so scandalous and odious in it self, and so solemnly condemn'd in many parts of Holy Scripture; but then what's very strange, notwithstanding 'tis the most foolish and ridiculous, 'tis become so common, that 'tis a

*Lying forbid
in Scripture.*

*Lying a com-
mon and foo-
lish Sin.*

great Variety (to use the Words of the Royal Prophet) to find a Man that speaks the Truth from his Heart.

*Courtesy due
to all, yet un-
paid by the
Proud,*

Next to this we owe to all, Humanity, and a courteous and affable Behaviour, a Virtue which a Proud Man

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Man can never arrive to ; he is so busie in admiring himself, that he overlooks all the Perfections of others.

Meekness is likewise a Debt we owe to every Body, and indeed a very great accomplishment, and highly necessary for the Preservation of the Peace of the World ; whilst on the contrary, all sorts of Brawlings and Contentions, tend to Disorder and Confusion, nay, what's worse, they tend to a great many Sins too, but especially to that most provoking Sin, Curseing and Execration.

*Meekness a
due to all
Men.*

*Brawling ve-
ry unsuffera-
ble, and
leads to the
Sin of Cur-
sing.*

Having thus far spoken of Dues in General, I come now to the Particular, which Men are ordinarily entitl'd to upon some special Qualification, the three chief are, that of Excellency, that of Want, and that of Relation. And

*Particular
Dues.*

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*A respect due
to Men of
extraordina-
ry Gifts.*

And first a Man is entitl'd to our Respect upon the Account of his Excellency. I mean for his Extraordinary Gifts and Endowments, such as are Wisdome, Learning, Grace, and the like ; and such a Person we are in no respect either

*We are not
to Envy
them, nor de-
tract from
them.*

to Envy or Revile, or to grudge at God's Blessings and kindness to him ; we should not attempt to detract from his Worth, or to cloud or dark-

en his Merits, but rather do our best to make 'em as conspicuous as we can, and this we should do not only as it is a Debt which we owe

*The Folly of
both these.*

to him, but because the contrary is an Act of extream folly, as well as ill Nature and Injustice.

Beside the Excellencies of the Mind, we owe a regard to the Quality and outward Advantages.

God

God for the due governing of the World, has decreed several Orders and Classes of Men, to each of which in Proportion to their respective Dignity we are to pay a due Respect.

A respect due to Men in regard of their Ranks and Qualities.

We are also Debtors to Persons under any kind of Want, whether Spiritual or Temporal, but more especially to the Poor, who by Gods particular Appointment, have a solemn Right to our superfluities ; and then it can be nothing else but an arrant Robbery to bestow that upon our Lust or Vanity, which is assign'd for their Portion. In the Case of the Poor we are Gods Stewards, and 'tis the same injustice and fraud for us to embezzle that which he has entrusted with us, as it is for any Steward to misemploy that which was intended for the use of his Masters Family;

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God withdraws those Abilities, that are not thus employ'd.

away, that have been so unfaithfully employ'd.

Duties in respect to Relation.

Debtor to a Creditor, and of an oblig'd Person to his Benefactor, and in both these Particulars we are bound by the strictest ties of Justice and Gratitude.

Gratitude to Benefactors, the contrary too common.

Not to pay our just Debts when we are able, is a Vice almost unpardonable, and to be ungrateful to a Benefactor, however common it may be in this unthankful Age, is an Act the most sordidly wise and disingenuous.

Family, and commonly too, meets with the Doom of the unjust Steward in the Gospel, to cause us to be put out of our Stewardship, and have those Abilities taken

The third Qualification is that of Relation, and of this there are divers sorts, as First, that of a

PAR-

PARTITION XIV.

*Of Duty to Magistrates, Pastors. Of
the Duty of Parents to Children,
&c. Of Childrens Duty to Pa-
rents.*

I Come now to the Duty to Pa-
nearest kind of Re- rents.
lations, and in the first Rank of those I place our Duty to Parents, whether Civil, Spiritual or Natural.

The Civil Parent is he who by a just right possesses the Throne, and to him we owe Honour and Reverence; we are to look upon him, as a Person upon whom God has stamp'd a great deal of his own Power and Authority, and upon no Account to speak evil of him or revile him.

To the Su-
pream Magi-
strate, Ho-
nour.

Next we owe him our Tribute, which we are to pay him with the ut-

96 The Whole Duty

*Tribute,
Prayers and
Obedience.*

utmost, both of Justice and Freedom; Thirdly, We are to Pray for him, that God would direct and assist him in all his Undertakings: And Fourthly, We owe him a solemn and strict Obedience, which both the Laws of God and Nature have commanded us to observe with the most awful and religious Submission.

The second sorts of Parents are the Spiritual, viz. the *Duties to our Ministers of God's Word,* and such as are entrusted with the

Salvation of Souls; to them we owe the highest Love and Kindness we are oblig'd to esteem and value them as our best and truest Friends

*Love, Esteem
Mainte-
nance, Obe-
dience, and
Prayer.*

we are likewise to contribute to their Maintenance, and withal to look upon them as the Gods Messengers, and are upon that Account to God behave our selves towards them

of Man Epitomiz'd 97

them with a great deal of distance and respect, and to put up our earnest Prayers to God for them, that he would grant them the assistance of his Spirit, to enable them rightly to discharge their Holy Calling.

The third sort of

Parent is the Natural, by which is meant the Fathers of our

Flesh. Towards these

we are to demean ourselves with Reverence

and Humility, and

upon no Account to contemn or

despise them, either in our outward

Behaviour or in our Hearts; we

owe them our most ardent Love and

tenderest Affection, and ought to

abhor every thing that can give

them the least Cause of Grief or

Disquiet.

We owe likewise Obedience.

with our Obedience to all

the Commands of our Parents, that

are not opposite to the Laws of

God, and cannot violate them,

without exposing ourselves to the

*Duties to
our Natural
Parent.*

*Reverence,
Love, &c.*

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Punishments he has so often denounc'd in Scripture against disobedient Children.

*Children not
to Marry
without the
Consent of
their Parents*

Children are not to Marry without the Consent of their Parents, every Child is so much the Right and Possession of his Parent, that he must be guilty of Theft to dispose of himself without his Consent. We are likewise bound according to our

*To provide
for their
Wants.*

*Duties to
the worst of
Parents.*

*Duties of
Parents to
Children.*

the Child. The Parent is oblig'd to nourish and sustain the Child till he comes of Age to do it for him

Abilities, to supply their Wants, and to administer to them in any kind of Extremity: and all this is to be done, even to the worst of Parents.

But as there are many things due from the Child to the Parent, so there are some from the Parent to

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himself, he is likewise to take Care for his Soul, by bringing him early to the Sacrament of Baptism; and by having him timely instructed in the Principles of Religion, and educated in the true Faith, and Fear of God; and as a Means to improve his Education too; he is to encourage and correct him, and to use all wise and gentle Means in order to impress upon him a timely Sence, of Vertue, and good Morals.

Thirdly, The Parent is to watch over the Soul of his Child, after he comes to years of Maturity, and as often as he finds occasion, to exhore, encourage and reprove him; he is likewise to take Care of his outward State, by providing him with a suitable

To bring them to Baptism; to educate them.

Means towards their Education.

The Parents to watch over the Childs Soul.

To provide for their Substance.

100 The VVhole Duty

Condition of Life ; but above all,

To give them
good Exam-
ple.

he is to lay before
him a good Example,
and to make his own
Life a fit Pattern for

him, from whence he
may transcribe the true Rules of
Vertue, Honour, Honesty and God-
liness ; and then he is

To Bless
them, and to
give them no
unreasonable
Commands.

to Bless him, and Pray
for him, and to re-
commend him often
to God's Care and
Protection : And be-

sides all this too, he
must be extreamly careful, that all
the Commands he layes upon him
are just and reasonable, and in all
respects utterly distant from all sorts
of harshness or severity.

PAR-

PARTITION. XV.

Of Duties to our Brethren, and Relations; Husband, Wife, Friends, Masters, Servants.

THE second sort of Relation is that of a Brother, which we may take in a double Sence, either Natural or Spiritual. I begin with the First, the Duties between Natural Brethren, I mean such that are of the same immediate Parents. And the Duty of these is to have united Hearts and Affections, to love one another with great Tenderness and Sincerity, and to do their utmost to promote their mutual Good and Happiness; This is a Duty so necessary in all Points, that without it no Family, where there is any number

Duties to Brethren :
Natural Love.

The necessity of Love among Brethren.

102 The Whole Duty

of Brothers and Sisters, can propose any tolerable Ease or Satisfaction.

The second sort are *Spiritual Brethren*, under which Notion are comprehended all those that are baptiz'd in the same Faith, and Church with our selves, and to all these our Compassion is to be the most melting and affectionate; with these we are to profess and defend the Faith of Christ Crucify'd, and to communicate with 'em in all Holy Offices, we are to bear with their Infirmities, and in a friendly manner to admonish and reprove 'em, and by fair and gentle Methods to endeavour to bring them to Repentance after they are fall'n. We are to sympathize with them in all their Agonies and Distresses, whether of Soul, Mind, or Body.

The

The third Relation is that between Husband and Wife, this is the nearest Relation of all, and yet there are several respective Duties which they owe to each other, for the Wife in the first Place, she owes her Husband Obedience, which God has strictly commanded her to pay him in all things that are Just and Lawful; she owes him Fidelity both to his Bed and his worldly Affairs, she owes him likewise her Love, and is bound to behave her self to him with the greatest friendliness & sweetness. And this she is to do notwithstanding his faults, which will by no means acquit her of any of these Duties.

There are likewise several Duties owing from the Husband to the Wife ; the First,

*The Wife
owes to the
Husband O-
bedience, Fi-
delity and
Love.*

*The faults of
the Husband
acquit her
not from
these Duties.*

*Duties from
the Husband
to the Wife :
Love,*

104. The Whole Duty

Is Love, by which he is enjoin'd to treat her with the utmost Tenderness and Compassion, not to behave himself to her with any manner of harshness or severity, but to use her in all respects as a part of himself.

Faithfulness to her Bed. Secondly, He owes Fidelity to her Bed, this is as much the Husbands Duty as the

Wife's, and the breach of it in either, is an Act of Uncleanness and

No maintain and instruct her.

Perjury. Thirdly, He is bound to do his endeavour to provide for her, and to suffer her freely to partake

of all his outward Blessings; and amongst the rest of his Duties, he is chiefly to take Care of the Salvation of her Soul, and to instruct her as far as her need requires in the Principles of Honesty and Religion.

Husbands & Wives bound to pray for, and assist each other.

In brief, Husbands and Wives are mutually bound to Pray for each other, and to their utmost to propagate

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pagate their Reciprocal Good and Happiness.

The true Ends of Marriage are likewise to be consulted; in which Case the Ornaments of the Mind are sooner to be chosen, then either Wealth, or Beauty, or any other outward Appendage; above all the rest, unlawful Marriages are to be avoided, 'tis a Holy State and should never be enter'd into, but according to the Direction of the Church, Reverently, Advisedly, Soberly, and in the Fear of God.

The next thing is Friendship, which is of that common good and concern, that humane Life would be but a wretched thing without it; the Duties of it are many, but the most material are Faithfulness in our

*The true
Ends of
Marriage to
be consulted,
and unlaw-
ful Marri-
ages to be a-
voided.*

*Friendship
with its Du-
ties.*

*Faithfulness
Assistance,
Admonition,
Prayer, Con-
stanty.*

Trusts;

106 The VVhole Duty

Trusts; Assistance, either with respect to our Souls, or Bodies; to our Souls, especially in admonishing us of our faults; which is the highest and most exalted Act of Friendship that can pass between Man and Man. Prayer is the next Duty, and after that Constancy, and all these together render a Friend an inestimable Jewel.

The last Relation is that between Masters, and Servants, and these too are mutually engag'd to each other. The Servant is bound to obey his Master's Just Commands, and to execute them with Freedom and Satisfaction;

*Servants
owe to their
Masters Obe-
dience, Fide-
lity, Submis-
sion, Dili-
gence.*

he owes him likewise an universal Fidelity in all his Concerns; &

is oblig'd by all the Rules of Modesty, and good Manners, to bear his Rebukes, and Reprehensions, with Submission, and to discharge his Trust, in every Particular, with Diligence, and Application.

The

The Masters on the other side, owe to their Servants Justice, in providing them with convenient food and paying them their Wages; as also Admonitions and Reproofs, with regard as well to their Sins and Offences against God, as Faults against themselves. They owe 'em

likewise good Example, that is, they are to make their own Lives and Actions a fit President for them to walk by; they are to allow them opportunities for Instruction, and convenient time for the Publick Worship of God; moreover they are to Command them with Prudence and Moderation; to encourage their well doing, and to treat their Faithfulness, Diligence, and Piety with a great deal of Kindness, and Bounty.

*Masters owe
to their Ser-
vants : Ju-
stice, Ad-
monition,
Means of In-
struction,
Moderation,
in Command
Encourage-
ment.*

PARTITION XVI.

Other Branches of our Duty to our Neighbour. Of Charity to Men's Souls, Bodies, Goods and Credit.

Charity in
the Affection.

THE next Duty to our Neighbour is Charity, this is a Duty which the Blessed JESUS himself has solemnly enjoyn'd in his Holy Gospel, and may be considered two Ways, either in our Affections, or Actions ; and First, The Charity of Affections, is such an universal Kindness, that inclines us to wish well to the Soul, Body, Goods, and Credit, of all Mankind.

To Men's
Souls, Bo-
dies, Goods,
and Credit.

To their Souls in the first Place, and to them we cannot surely wish well, when we consider, that Christ thought their Ransome worth the Price of his own Blood ;

Blood ; we owe next all the good we can to the Bodies of Men ; this is an high Article of our Charity, and without it, we can never come up to that golden Rule, of loving our Neighbour as our selves. His Goods, and his Credit, are likewise to be very dear, and precious to us, and we are bound to propagate his Interest, and Reputation, and to esteem them upon all Accounts equal to our own.

This kind of Charity naturally begets in us a quiet and peaceable Mind, and a Compassion and Tenderness towards others ; it creates in us a Joy for their Prosperity, and excites us to Pray for 'em and to importune Almighty God in their behalf ; besides all these too, it guards our Minds against all sort of Envy or Revenge, keeps down our Pride, and im-

*The Effects
of this Cha-
rity.*

*It casts out
Envy, Pride,
Censorious-
ness, Dissem-
bling, Self-
love and Re-
venge,
presses*

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presses deep upon us the Grace of Humility; it destroys Censoriousness, and curbs the rashness of our Judgment, suppresses Dissimulation, and banishes, and subverts, all feign'd, and pretended Kindness; it casts away all Self-love, and mercenary Designs, and entirely roots out of our Minds all manner of Rancor and Malice.

*The Motives
to it, Christ's
Commands,
and the ex-
ample of God.*

what can be a greater Motive to it, than to find it so solemnly commanded and enforc'd by God's own President.

*This Charity
to extend e-
ven to Ene-
mies.*

against God, with the Offences of our Bre-

Nay, this Charity goes further, according to the Doctrine and Example of our Blessed Lord, it extends it self even to our Enemies;

This is a Subject well becoming our serious Consideration and should put us in mind methinks, to ballance our Sins against the Offences of our Bre-

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Brethren against our selves, and would we do that, we should find the first so much outweigh the last, that from a fair Comparison, we must needs judge our selves very unworthy to expect

God should Pardon us for so many great offences, and yet at the same time we refuse to forgive our Brethren for some, perhaps, trivial faults; besides this too, there's a great deal of Pleasure and Satisfaction in the forgiving our

Enemies; 'tis true, this may seem a Paradox at first sight, but then, if we examine the Truth of it by Experience, we shall find it really so, and this sort of forgiving Temper, the most delightful as well as the most Christian.

Beyond this likewise, there is another Consideration strong enough to engage us to forgive our Enemies, I mean the danger of it; God has

The Disproportion of our Offences against God compar'd with Men's against us.

Pleasantness, of this Duty.

112 The Whole Duty

If we forgive
not, God will
not forgive
us.

has made our Com-
passion to others, the
Standard by which he
intends to measure
his to us. If ye for-
give not Men their

Trespasses, neither will your Father
forgive your Trespasses, nay, he
has made it a part of our daily
Prayers, so that when a revengeful
Person says this Prayer, he lays up-
on himself a Curse, and does in ef-
fect beg God not to forgive him.

This is a Duty we are oblig'd to
in Point of Gratitude
too; God has shew'd
us wonderful Mer-
cies, and can we be

so base to think, we are not oblig'd
to some returns. Peace and Unity
was one of the last things our Sa-
viour recommended to the World,

The first ri-
sing of Ran-
chor to be
supprest.

and indeed he has
press'd no single Pre-
cept with greater con-
cern than this of uni-
versal Charity and
forgiving Enemies, a
Consi-

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Consideration methinks, that should engage us to suppress all Degrees of Rancor and Revenge, and to check and curb them in their very first Motions.

I come now to the Charity in the Actions, which is the truest way to prove the former, I mean by a sincere and cordial

Love, distributed without Hypocrisie, or Reserve, to the Soul, Body, Goods, and Credit of our Neighbour; to his Soul and Mind, we should acquit our selves with the utmost tenderness and concern, and omit no means that might any ways promote the Happiness or Advantage of either; to his Body we should exercise all the Offices of true Christian Friendship and Kindness, and upon all occasions be constantly ready to promote his Interest, and defend his Reputation.

*Charity in
the Actions,
to the Mind,
Soul, Body,
&c.*

PAR-

PARTITION XVII.

Of Charity ; Alms-giving, &c. Of Charity in respect of our Neighbours Credit, &c. Of Peace-making, of going to Law, of Charity to our Enemies.

Charity in respect of the Goods, both to the Rich and Poor.

THE next thing is our Charity, towards the Goods and Estate of our Neighbour, and herein we are to assist and further him in all honest and friendly Offices, and this we are to do to the Rich as well as the Poor, only with this difference, that the Poor are the more immediate Objects of our Alms.

This great Duty of Alms-giving is enforc'd by many strong and powerful Motives, but the three greatest of all are with respect to God, our Neighbour,

bour, and our Selves, God has commanded it, and expects it both as an Argument of our Obedience and Thankfulness. Secondly, True Love and Compassion, and a Fellow-feeling of our Neighbours Wants and Sufferings engage us to it. Thirdly, In respect of our Selves, the Motive is, that there is an Eternal Reward annext ; the manner is likewise to be carefully consulted, which will add much to the Grace it self, and to the Advantage of those we relieve.

And First, We are to do it always with the greatest chearfulness and satisfaction to exercise a kind of Holy Joy in dealing our Bread to the hungry ; we must not entertain any vain Fears, or impious Apprehensions, that our administering to the Wants of the Distrest, will be any means to impoverish us or

*Manner of
Alms-giving.*

*Chearfully
without the
Apprehension
of Want, sea-
sonably, pru-
dently, and
liberally.*

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or consume our Estates. We are likewise to observe a due season and order of Time, and a Prudent and Religious Care in the regular Distribution of our Charity, and withdrawal to do it pursuant to the Principles of Liberality and true Christian Generosity.

Charity in respect of our Neighbours Credit.

Our Charity likewise obliges us to preserve and propagate the Credit of our Neighbour, to be ourselves very tender and

careful of his Reputation, and to defend and promote it among others, with all the Caution that we are able; to be unwilling to believe his Faults, and to conceal them as far as 'tis lawful from the Publick, and to use all friendly means to advise and reclaim him.

Acts of Charity in some respects, Acts of Justice.

This is the summa of that Active Charity we owe to the several Capacities of our Brethren, and this indeed according to

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to the true meaning of it, is a kind of Justice we owe to him. Likewise Justice and Charity are so near ally'd, that they are not to be separated, the one constantly depends upon the other, and they can never be divided without Injury to both.

To improve this excellent Virtue, we can do nothing better, than by laying always before us that great Rule of Loving our Neighbour as our Selves, this the Apostle makes the summ of our Duty ; and indeed we can hardly err if we make that the Standard whereby to measure our Actions.

Peace-making is another Act of Charity, and may be of great use both to his Soul, Body, Goods, and Credit. God himself has pronounced the Peace-maker blessed & encouragements sufficient to engage us to lay hold on all opportunities of setting upon this extraordinary Work of Charity ; but first every

The great Rule of Charity.

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every Man ought to have a special regard to his own Temper; he that will undertake in such

He that undertakes it, must be peaceable himself. an excellent Office, has need to be qualified with all the Graeëes of Peace, Meekness, and Charity.

Contentions, and Quarrels, and Litigious Suits and Controversies ought to be appeas'd and taken up with all the Caution that can be.

The going to Law if *Of going to Law.* the Causē be Just has commonly so many unhappy Appendages that according to the Judgment of St. Paul, the tender regard we ought to have for Peace, should rather encline us to take Wrong, and suffer our selves to be defrauded than make use of it.

All that remains now, is the extent of this Charity; which is to reach to all Orders Charity to and Degrees of Men Enemies; even to our very Enemies;

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mies ; this was our Blessed Lord's own Example, then which, there can be nothing greater to recommend it to us.

And thus I have run through the several Paths of our Duty to our Neighbour, towards the right Performance of which there is nothing certainly can more conduce than the root-ing out of our Hearts all kind of inordinate Love of our selves ; this is an unhappy Principle indeed, and where it once takes root it soon choaks both our Charity and our Justice ; if therefore we ever intend our Charity should grow in our Minds, we must first weed out of 'em this Sin of Self-love, for 'tis impossible they can prosper together, and then, when this and all other hinderances are remov'd, we are to fly to our grand Remedy, Prayer, that God would frame our Hearts into such a gallant Tem-

*Self love an
hindrance
to this Cha-
rity.*

per, *Pray-
er, that God would
frame our Hearts in-
to such a gallant Tem-*

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per, that we may be enabled rightly G
to perform this great Duty.

Christian Duties, both possible and pleasant.

our Neighbour ; and surely, through the whole, there seems nothing of Impossibility ; the things themselves are all reasonable Just and Practicable, and what's more delightful and pleasant too ; even those that

Even when they expose us to Suffering.

There is such a Power in Virtue, such a Satisfaction in a good Conscience, and such a Secret and constant Pleasure in the Performance of the Christian Duties, that there is no Apology to be made for our Neglect ; beside, 'tis a dangerous thing to defer our return to

And now I have done with those several things I at first propos'd, in shewing what is our Duty to God, our Selves, and our Neighbour ; and surely, through the whole, there seems nothing of Impossibility ; the things themselves are all reasonable Just and Practicable, and what's more delightful and pleasant too ; even those that may seem to expose us to Persecutions and Suffering, from their Ends and Consequences are the Objects of no more Joy than Grief.

God

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ly God, the Particulars
I have set down in
the Discourse of Re-
pentance, and thither
first refer you; with the

Wise Kings most ra-
tional Advice, Eccles. 5. 7. Make
and notarrying to turn to the Lord, and put
not off from Day to Day.

The danger
of delaying
our turning
to God.

An Introductory Prayer for Faith.

Blessed Lord, God, strengthen
and confirm my Faith I be-
thine, that I may truly believe
and depend upon thy Holy Name,
Word; improve my Under-
standing, and direct my Will, that
whatsoever I read in this, or any
book tending to the Promotion of
religion, and the Salvation of my
soul, may sink so deep into my
mind, that I may bring forth by it
some Fruit of good Living; to thy
raise and Honour: O Jesus, my
true Mediator and Advocate.

G

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A Prayer suited for the First Partition.

I instruct me O my God, in the Whole Duty of Man; enrich me with thy blessed Spirit, that the Lights of Nature and Scripture may shine bright in me, and guide me through the distinct Branches of my Duty, to Thee, my Self, and my Neighbour. Give me O Jesus, merciful Jesus, such an awful Sence of thy Eternal Essence, that by a steady and unalterable Faith I may lawfully hold on thy gracious Promises; improve and enliven my hope by a firm and solid Dependance upon the Goodness, and yet restrain me truly that I may in no respect be possest with the Vanity of Presumption. O God of Love; inspire my Soul with such a Holy Ardeney, that thine may make it the whole business of my Life to Adore and Love Thee. O God of Love! Let the Fear of Thee (O glorious Majesty!) possess me with such a Holy Reverence and REGARD for Thee, that I may

be afraid to do any thing against
the Honour due to thy Name, or
to provoke Thee with any kind of
the Sin, or Folly; and in all my Wants
and Extremities, give me Grace to
put my whole Trust and Confidence
in Thee: O Almighty Lord!

For the Second.

Endow me, O Lamb of God, with
a Spirit of Meekness and Hu-
steinity, that I may be enabl'd to
submit to thy Will, and to undergo
all the Sufferings of my Life with
a firm Calmness and Moderation. O thou
in the Eternal Fountain of all Honour, Gle-
tery, and Power, for thy own sake I
will beseech Thee impress deeply upon
my Soul, a high Reverence and Re-
Sould for thy House the Church, and
that the Possessions thou hast set a part
for thy own Use, and let thy Day,
The thy Word, and thy Sacraments be
ever always precious in my sight; O
Lord! my Strength, and my Re-
deemer.

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For the Third.

O Merciful Jesus, who hast prepared a blessed Feast for the entertainment of my Soul, give me Grace before I presume to approach thy Table, to prove my Self by a strict Examination, how fit I am to be a Guest at such an Holy Banquet; and seeing I can never prepare my self as I ought without Repentance, Faith and Obedience: Direct me I beseech Thee, in the right performance of those great Duties, and in every other Grace and Virtue that is any ways requisite to qualifie me aright for that awful Mystery.

For the Fourth.

O Omnipotent and Eternal God, acknowledge thy Name. is
Great, Wonderful, and Holy, and the
most worthy of Honour and Adora-
tion; keep me therefore (dread
Lord) from all kind of Blasphemy,
and

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and *Perjury*, and from all *vain* and *unlawful Oaths*, and from every other Sin that may any ways tend to debase the *Majesty* of thy most glorious *Name*.

For the Fifth.

THY Name O Lord is thy own glorious *Self*! Hear me therefore O great *Jehova*! That when I Pray, Repent, or Fast, or do any of the other Duties of Religion, I may do them all with an habitual Reverence, and Purity of Intention, to the Praise and Honour of thy Name.

For the Sixth.

Direct me O my God in the Duties to my *Self*! Impress upon me O *Eternal Goodness*, a sober *Mind*, and an *Humble Spirit*, that I may acquit my self to Thee and my Fellow-Creature, as becomes a Wise Man and a good Christian; keep I beseech Thee all *Pride*

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and *Vain-Glory* out of my Heart,
and from a due Reflection upon
the *Folly* and *Danger* that attends
them, give me Grace to use the
means to prevent 'em effectually;
endow me O thou Author of all
good Gifts, with a *meek* and *quiet*
Spirit, that I may form my Life af-
ter thy Example; O blessed Jesus!

For the Seventh.

Bless me O Father of Mercy
with a *contented* Mind, through
every State and Turn of my Life,
and let neither *Murmuring*, Ambi-
tion, Covetousness, or Envy, at any
time get the Dominion over my
Reason, and disturb the Composure
of my Soul. Assist me mercifully
O Lord in the performance of those
Duties that concern my Body, that
by the help of *Chastity* and *Tempe-
rance*, I may utterly mortifie all my
Corrupt Lusts and Appetites, and
make it a fit Receptacle for a pure
Mind, and a quiet Conscience.

For the Eighth.

Give me, O thou Eternal Foun-
tain of all Order and Sobri-
ty, a fixt and sett'd Hatred against
all Intemperance, but more especially
against that of excessive Drinking ;
discover to me I beseech Thee, the
false Ends of Drinking, and imprint
upon me such a deep sense of the
Danger, and Folly, and withal of
the Loathsomeness of it, that I may
reject it, as a Vice much below the
Dignity of a Man, much more of a
Christian.

For the Ninth,

OHoly, Holy, Holy, Lord,
God, direct me I beseech
Thee in a right Application of all
thy Blessings. Thou hast given me
leave to Sleep for the Support and
Repose of my frail Body, teach me
likewise, O God of Temperance, to
measure it by the Ends for which
thou was at first pleas'd to ordain

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it. Let all my *Recreations* be moderate and inoffensive, and us'd with the strictest *Caution* with regard to *Thee*, my *Neighbour*, and my *Self*; give me *Grace* and *Prudence* to avoid all *Gaiety* in my *Apparel*, and to prefer the inward *Ornaments* of my *Soul* to all useless *Trappins*, and all gaudy and insignificant *Shews* and *Formalities*.

For the Tenth.

Instruct me, O Eternal Father of all Truth and Equity, in the Duties I owe to my *Neighbour*; grant I beseech *Thee*, that I may direct my Life, by the constant Rules of *Justice*, both *Negative* and *Positive*. Prevent me, O Crucify'd Saviour from that crying Sin. of *Murder*; let the *bainousness*, the *Punishments*, and the *strange discoveries* thou hast been pleas'd to make of it be always in my View, to deter me from it even in the most minute Particulars.

For

For the Eleventh.

Give me Grace, O Blessed Redeemer that after thy Example I may observe a strict and Positive Justice to my Neighbour in all his Possessions. Stamp deep upon my Mind I intreat Thee (O my God) a tender regard for him in his Wife, and in all his worldly Goods. Lord I beseech Thee, defend me from the Sins of Oppression and Theft, and give me Grace to acquit my Self justly in all my Dealings, and to behave my self as becomes an honest Man in all manner of Bargains and Commerce.

For the Twelfth.

LET thy merciful Ears O Lord be open to my Prayers ; for the sake of thy own Eternal Equity, errace utterly out of my Mind all unjust Notions ; and let no Temptations to any sort of Robbery at any time get the Dominion over me ;

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improve my Mind I beseech Thee with such a determinate hatred against all kind of *Deceit*, that I may immediately resolve upon that great Duty of a Christian Restoration. And this I beg of Thee with the highest Ardeney, for thy own sake O merciful Jesus!

For the Thirteenth.

O Eternal God of Truth! guide me I beseech Thee by thy blessed Spirit, that I may be exactly careful how I Believe, or Report any thing to the Prejudice of my Neighbour; keep me from the dangerous Sins of *Perjury*, and *Slander*ing from all base and malicious *Whisperings*, and from all fly and injurious *Insinuations*; O God of Righteousness, let the tenderness and regard I owe to my Fellow Christian sink so deep into my Soul, that I may neither *Scorn* at his *Calamities*, or *Infirmities*, nor deride his very *Sins*. Give me, O King of Justice, such a *Positive Uprightness*, and *Integrity*, that

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that I may abhor all sorts of *Lying, Envy, and Detraction*, and that I may preserve an humble and intire *Gratitude and Thankfulness* towards my Friends and Benefactors, but especially towards Thee O bountiful Jesus!

For the Fourteenth.

O God of all Order and Power, who in thy Wisdom haft appointed several Ranks and Degrees of Men among us, give me an awful Sence of that profound *Obedience and Respect* I owe to all the Magistrates, Pastors, and Gouvernours in their respective Stations; teach me O my God! as a *Child*, that *Love and Reverence* I owe to my Parents, and as a Parent that *Care and Duty* I owe to my Children, that in both Capacities I may discharge my Trust after the Direction of thy most Holy Precept, O King of Righteousness!

For

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For the Fifteenth.

Teach me O merciful God and Saviour, that I may acquit my self to all my Brethren, whether Spiritual or Temporal, and to all my Relations, as becomes a Member of the Christian Profession; in the several Capacities of a Husband Friend, Master and Servant, teach me O merciful God, to behave myself, as becomes a Member of thy most Holy Religion, O blessed Jesus,

For the Sixteenth.

Instruct me I beseech Thee, O Almighty Lord, in all the Branches of my Duty to my Neighbour. After thy own Example, O unchangeable Goodness! Direct my Charity towards him, with respect to his Soul, his Body, his Goods, and his Credit; give me such a Spirit of Positive Justice, that I may value him upon all Accounts equal to myself,

self, and be always ready to do the very best I can to propagate his Interest in both Worlds. I beg this of Thee with the utmost Ardency of my Soul, O Jesus, merciful Jesus!

For the Seventeenth.

O Merciful God, who hast mark'd out my *Compassion* to my Fellow Creature, as the Standard by which thou intendest to measure Thine to me! Give me, I beseech Thee an intire and universal *Charity*. Open my Bowels, that I may be ready to help and further him in all his *Extremities*. Grant Q my God, for the sake of thy own Love, that I may be always prepar'd to vindicate my Neighbours good Name upon all occasions, that I may judge the best and speak well of him, and conceal or excuse his InfirmitieS, that I may be impatient to hear, slow to believe, and unwilling to propagate evil *Reports*, lodge him in my Heart in the very

now

34 The Whole Duty

next Place to my Self, that I may constantly Study his Peace, and value it equal to my own; keep me from all *Litigious Suits* and *Controversies*, let an even and regular *Charity* run through my whole Life and Actions, and extend it self even to my very *Enemies*; I beg this and every thing else, thou in thy Wisdom knows useful for me, for Jesus Christ his Sake, Amen. Amen.

Ruth Jellett her Book
given her by her great
great, Grand Aunt.
Dorothy Smith. —
Nov 16th 1772.

Ruth Jellett was
Born Sept^r. 21st 1753.

FINIS.

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